AUG 16 1915

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS
No. 156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
JAMES H. CONDIT, D. D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

August 6,1915

Rev. John Dixon,D.D.,

156 5th Avenue,

N.Y.

My dear Dr. Dixon:

At the meeting of the Board held on June 11,1915 action was taken whereby I am made responsible for the supervision and care of the property of the Board in Alaska.

I desire to present the following to the Board and Finance Committee as bearimg upon my duties in this connection and ask for an expression from the Finance Committee approving the outline, if found in order.

The property of the Board in Alaska may be listed as follows: (1) Church buildings, (Manses).(2) Other buildings. (3) Boats.(4) Land,(a)patented,(b) obtained by purchase,(c) held under other provisions,e.g.,in Forestry reserves, Indian reserves, etc. (5) Equipment.e.g.,stock,tools,etc.,etc. at Klukwan and Haines.

In my judgement there should be considerable attention given to the investigation and listing of the Board's property. If it meets with the approval of the Board I shall proceed to the following:

(1) Examination and perfecting of titles.

It does not appear that in every instance the perfecting of titles has been accomplished. The matter of recording, etc.,etc.,should be investigated in each instance.

(2) A portion of the property is held jointly,in connection with the Church Erection Board and perhaps with the Woman's Board. A record of the facts should be made.

(3) It would be well to have a general appraisal of value of property--not expert and expensive but such approximate estimate as can be easily made by those on the fields in conjunction with the General Missionary. This should also be a matter of record.

In general I may say that land values are increasing in parts of Alaska very rapidly. As an instance I may cite the Haines tract. This tract will ultimately be a very valuable holding and for several reasons. But here there are squatters who up to date have not given formal recognition of the Board's title although the Board holds the ground by U.S.patent. This business is now being pushed through by the Board's attorney in Alaska,Judge Gunnison. In conjunction with the Judge I should like to proceed along the general lines suggested if this meets with the approval of the Finance Committee.

#3 Dr. Dixon 8/6,'15

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Haines Mission. Acting in accordance with the letter of Mr Olin of date June 4th, 1915, in which it is suggested that Judge Gunnison and myself have been authorized to proceed with the matters pertaining to that property as outlined in our recommendations, I would say that I have asked for bids for the surveying of certain lots and tracts as indicated in the report.

Judge Gunnison and myself will proceed at once to the matter of drawing up and obtaining signatures to leases in accord with our joint report.

It will be noted that in our report as to the Haines property the recommendations submitted came under four heads (1) As to timber, (2) Asto tract now occupied by natives and whites (3) As to leases (4) As to persons to act for the Board under power of attorney.

The three latter matters are either adjusted or under way.

I wish to ask that an action be taken by the Board positively forbidding the cutting of timber on the Board's tract without the permission of the local missionary and General Missionary.

This is desirable in order that Mr Winterberger may have written authority to put an end to the practice of the natives of slashing and cutting the timber belonging to the Home Mission Board. The practice in past years has been to cut the best standing logs, cut out the best part, and leave the rest to be a menace in time of dry weather as at present. There has also been much waste and little or no supervision in the matter. Since the mission, both hospital and church depends upon this fuel supply it is altogether inadvisable that the indiscrininate cutting of wood be permitted. It will give authority to Mr Winterberger if a written order be sent to him asking him to strictly supervise the cutting of wood hereafter on mission premises.

The Haines tract is the only property in S.E. Alaska, owned by the Board which possesses value as a farm possibility. Mr Winterberger believes that the mission may be made largely self supporting by working the land. In this I heartily concur. Under the management of Mr Winterberger who has practical knowledge of farming and who is an enthusiast along this line I believe that the enterprise can be made a very valuable asset in the support of the local mission. But in order to make of it a paying proposition there must be a proper equipment. The first need at present is for a heavy horse. The hospital pays for the hauling of the wood for winter consumption. The amount paid for this purpose would go far toward the keeping of a horse. In order to effectively till the soil a draft horse must be provided. I speak of this now in the hope that this need may be supplied soon. If that is impossible just at present it certainly should be granted in good season for the coming summer's work.

It will also be necessary to provide certain farm machinery. I believe that the investment will be an excellent one from the view point of economy as well as an object lesson to the natives.

Very respectfully,

James H. Condit.

(2 Enclosures)

#2 Dr. Dixon 8/6,'15

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JAMES H. CONDIT, D. D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Repairs. I take it that I am to look after the item of repairs with the purpose of keeping the property of the Board in good condition and that this item is to be rendered in the budget estimate of the Presbytery.

The holdings of the Board in Alaska assume considerable proportions including a number of buildings. These should not be permitted to deteriorate.

The same holds true with respect to the mission boats which should be overhauled each year in order to keep them in usable and salable condition.

Mission Boats. I have had prepared and Mr Olin has kindly taken care of the printing of a blank form for quarterly reports regarding the use and cost of operation of the mission boats owned or in operation by the Board. I enclose a copy of this blank."(1)" It is my hope that much of the indefiniteness regarding the use of mission boats will be remedied by the use of these blanks. The Board will be able to know at any time the mileage, expense of operating, and use of mission boats.

In this connection I would call attention to the map with boat routes indicated which I submitted to Dr Dixon at the meeting of the Assembly at Rochester.

I would offer these blanks and the route map in reply to the suggestion that an investigation of the Mission Boat question be made.

I have at hand a list of the boats in use, dimensions, cost of operation, etc. I plan to make this a portion of the permanent records as to property indicated above.

Requisition blanks. In connection with the blanks for reports as to boat use I have also suggested a form of requisition to be used by the missionaries in drawing upon the local appropriations from the presbyterial budget. I enclose a copy of this ("2") blank which has also been kindly furnished by Mr Olin. Inasmuch as I am required to "o.k." all requisitions upon the budget appropriation this form seems to put the matter in business like shape for that purpose and also for record. I am thus informed as to the amount drawn by each field, the balance remaining to the credit of each local field and also the balance of appropriated funds not drawn from the treasury.

It is my purpose, in connection with the Board's Attorney in Alaska, Judge Gunnison, who with myself have been appointed as the Board's Attorneys in Alaska, to proceed to the orderly arrangement of the Board's property matters in Alaska along the lines herewith indicated, subject to the approval of the Finance Committee. I should like a formal action to this effect if agreeable to the Board.

September 25th, 1915.

Rev.. James H. Condit, D.D.,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Dr. Condit:-

At the meeting of our Finance Committee on Wednesday, the 22nd, there was brought to the attention of the Committee your letter to Dr. Dixon dated August 6th, in which you presented an outline of procedure in the handling of properties, consisting of manses, buildings, boats, church buildings, etc. You, of course, have a copy of your own letter.

The Committee deemed the authority given in March last, when the general report of yourself and Judge Gunnison was acted upon, sufficient to cover all these points, and you may consider that you are authorized to proceed along the lines laid down in your letter.

Taking up your letter somewhat in detail, let me say, in reply to your first point, namely, examination and perfecting of titles, we have patents from the Government to the properties in Alaska as noted on the enclosed list. So far as other properties are concerned, which we are occupying as mission stations, we shall be glad to have you proceed with investigations and see what the status of the same may be. If you find, upon examination at the proper offices, that our titles have not been recorded, and you are of the opinion that we have patents or title in here in this office, we shall be glad to forward them for that purpose.

Second. No part of the property, so far as we are aware, is "held jointly" for the reason that title to all properties occupied by the Woman's Board is vested in this Board. So far as I know, the Sitka property is the only one to which the women should have title unless, perhaps, it be such portion of the Haines property as is necessary for the location of the hospital and suitable grounds.

Third. As to the valuation of the property: We shall be glad to have that, as you have suggested, not an expert and expensive valuation, but one which can be easily made by yourself and thos e on the field.

We hope that you and Judge Gunnison will be able to take up the Haines matter very promptly.

As to the cutting of timber on the Haines property, you are authorized to post such notices on the property as are proper, forbidding the cutting of timber, and containing such other directions as you may deem proper in the premises.

As to the equipment for the development of land at Haines: That, of course, was under consideration last Spring and was held up because the Board could not, at that time, nor can it at the present time, authorize these expenditures, much as we regret that this is so.

and

As to the repairs/~~ax~~ mission boats: These items have already been treated upon, and of course you will be wise in making up the budget for the coming year, to include amounts to cover both these items.

Trusting that this matter has been gone into to your satisfaction, and that it will now be understood, I am

Very cordially yours,

Treasurer.

C-S

(Enclosure)

July 5th, 1916.

Mr. E. Carnochan, Esq.,

52 William street, City.

Dear Mr. Carnochan:-

I am passing you herewith the annual statement which we are required to file in certain offices in the District of Alaska, with the request that you will kindly sign as a member of our Board, below the signature of Mr. Revell at the bottom of the sheet.

The ridiculous laws of the Territory of Alaska require that not only shall this be signed by the President and Secretary of the Board, but by a majority of the members. Therefore, if you will kindly add your signature to all three copies, I shall be able to pass them along to another member to sign.

Thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

Treasurer.

(Enclosures)

O-S

December 17th, 1917.

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Condit:-

Replying to yours of the 28th ult. We will be glad to receive a further report on the Alaska Road Commission, regarding the proposition they have submitted for the opening of a road across the Sitka property. As soon as possible after the data is received, the matter will be taken up promptly with our Finance Committee.

Your understanding of your salary adjustments is in harmony with our own, and I believe that check for the balance due you for the current month has already been forwarded.

We have received from Judge Gunnison a letter stating that the Lodge of Perfection No. 1 is ready through the possession of sufficient funds to pay off the balance of the mortgage held by this Board. We are writing to Judge Gunnison that the Board has acted favorably in the matter, and that just as soon as we can secure the attendance of our President at these offices, the form of Satisfaction Piece submitted, will be executed and forwarded.

Regarding the condition of the manse building at Wrangell, towards the repairs of which you suggest that part of the proceeds from the payment of the above mortgage be used, may I suggest that you write me a separate letter, giving the condition of that manse building, and the matter will be taken up as promptly as possible.

While it is in every way proper to apply the money received from the sales of property in Alaska to other work in your territory, it should be understood that the Board has never adopted any rule or policy by which such an arrangement is to be carried out. The great bulk of the money that has been spent in Alaska both for missionary work and for properties, was not designated specifically for the Alaska Mission, and therefore, as a matter of fact, Alaska has no more claim upon monies derived from the sale of properties in the territory than has ~~the~~ Mission in any other part of our field. I mention this now that the idea may not grow in the minds of the brethren in Alaska that when once a dollar is put in Alaska, it must always remain there, whether it decreases or increases. In the present instance it is quite probable that whatever repairs may be required to either church or manse buildings in Alaska will have to be provided for from just such funds as we are now able to receive from the payment of the remainder of the above mortgage, for the reason as you have already been advised, this Board has no fund now on which it can draw for these urgency matters.

Parsons, Closson & McIlvaine,
52 William Street.

HERBERT PARSONS
HENRY B. CLOSSON
TOMPKINS McILVAINE
WILLIAM E. CARNOCHAN
ALBERT S. WRIGHT

New York, August 28, 1918.

Varian Banks, Esq.,
Assistant Treasurer, Board of Home Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Banks:

I return the Alaska power of attorney. As it runs to James H. Condit and Royal A. Garrison, and "each of them severally", I should think that, notwithstanding Judge Garrison's death, Dr. Condit could act thereunder, without requiring a new one running to him alone. It is just as well, however, and will probably be more convenient, to have a new one executed; and I approve the changes in the old one which you have made.

Yours very truly,

William E. Carnochan

Enclosure

Princeton Theological Seminary
Princeton, New Jersey

This system has worked very well in most cases. For there are always white men "lumping" around Reservations waiting to beat the Indian out of his land.. ~~I am~~

I am becoming more & more convinced tho that it is a bad policy to give the Indian any thing for nothing except in emergencies. Of course on these Reservations he owns the land that he selects because in most cases his father and all his ancestors have lived on the lands for an untold number of years, but I take it. The church owns this land. In that case I believe that most Indians could pay something for the land, though in many cases not much. But in any case the trust patent is the best way of keeping the land for the Indian. until he is able to own his own home & take care of his own business. Hope this gives you my idea of the matter sufficiently clear if not I'll be glad to answer any question you wish to ask or best I can.

Sincerely H. M. Dodd

Princeton is great, I'm very busy,

October 7, 1918.

Hon. Cato Sells, Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:-

We recently learned through one of our missionaries that the Government issues what are termed "trust patents" to Indians covering allotments made on tribal lands apportioned to each Indian after such land has been surveyed and inspected by Government officials of the location of selected by the Indian.

The effect of this trust patent, as we understand it, is that the owner takes full possession of the land but the title remains in the Government for something like twenty years. Under such provision the owners are not allowed to sell any timber from the land without the consent of the Government and that at the expiration of the above period full title to the land is granted.

This Board is now considering the adoption of a settled policy regarding leases to lands, of which it holds title through United States Government patents, at its various mission settlements in Alaska in connection with the use of such lease by sundry Indians in order that they may be discouraged from living in community houses, and to establish their families in separate homes. The Board wishes to protect the best interests of the Indian in order that no white man may secure possession of the land set apart to the Indian through purchase or other procedure.

Upon the assumption that there are desirable features included in the trust patent used by the Government which we would do well to follow, especially in view of the fact that the trust paten has been found to work advantageously and to the best interest of all concerned, I write to ask if we could secure a copy of the trust patent, or such portion thereof as refers particularly to the terms in question above referred to, that we may be aided in formulating such deed as will advance both the interest of the ~~missionary~~ Indians and our work in Alaska. We will appreciate the receipt of such information as you can give.

Very truly yours,

VB/K

Assistant Treasurer.

October 7, 1918.

Mr. H.M. Foster
Princeton Theological Seminary
Princeton, N.J.

Dear Mr. Foster:-

Thank you very much for your letter of the 2nd inst. which gives me just the information I want. I appreciate your thoughtfulness in taking your valuable time to give me the data that will aid us in reaching, I trust, a wise and safe conclusion regarding the treatment to be accorded the Indians in Alaska.

I agree with you, that to give anyone, especially an Indian, something for nothing, does not tend to uplift him in any sense. It would seem to me to be much better if the Indian paid even a nominal sum for such land as we could assign to him.

I am writing to the Department of the Interior, requesting either a copy of the "Trust Patent" which is issued by the Government, or an extract therefrom, which will enable me to secure the desired information as to the Government's view.

Sincerely yours,

VB/K

Assistant Treasurer.

E

February 14, 1919.

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Condit:-

I note from your letter of the 23rd ult. that Mr. Winterberger will remain in Haines until April 1st, and until his successor is chosen he will look after the rentals in connection with the Haines leases. This is very gratifying and it will not only insure the proper care of this item, but also full information on the part of Mr. Winterberger's successor before he is thrown upon his own resources.

I agree with you that when the native leases were decided upon it was not anticipated that any financial profit wherefrom would be obtained. To the contrary, it was anticipated that the cost would, in a limited measure, exceed the income from the leases, but the great difference between the income and expenses for carrying out this plan was not anticipated.

It should be borne in mind, however, that there is another side of the question which is that the Board cannot be engaged in the real estate business which is practically the result of the present plan if continued on the present basis; I am not alone in the opinion that the best policy to be adopted by the Board is along the line of only retaining such portion of the land as is required in the conduct of the work of the Board at the place where the land is owned through a patent received from the Government, and I would therefore like to have your thought as to whether it would not only be feasible, but considering the best interests of all concerned, advisable to have the farm land alloted to the natives who have established such a reputation as will entitle them to full citizenship if not already acquired.

It will not be possible to come to a decision before the close of the current fiscal year regarding the policy to be adopted so that we will welcome your own recommendation after full consideration has been given to all sides of this property question. There is no doubt in our minds but that whatever policy may be adopted it will be most desirable to quitclaim parcels of land to worthy natives at Hoonah. The effect upon such just treatment of the natives who have proven themselves worthy of trust will be far-reaching, benefit in the future as will as in the present.

Mr. Gladfelter has already written to this office requestingthat as soon as the plan has been worked out for the disposition of the mission rpoperty he desires to have the details as the natives at Hoonah are becoming eager to build their own homes and have asked Mr. Gladfelter to obtain the Forestry Department to survey the village. Of course, until this is done we can make no progress toward conveying the building lots to anyone.

Regarding the furniture owned by Mr. Winterberger. He had already written to this office concerning the proposition which he submitted that he be allowed to appropriate from the balance of the farm money in his hands a sufficient amount to pay for such articles of furniture as he left at Haines, and I have replied that in accordance with the present policy of the Board there

are no funds available for the purchase of household furniture for the use of any missionary of the Board. The men in Alaska are treated differently than the men in the States. That is, they are guaranteed travel expenses of themselves and family and their household goods, so that when they arrive at the field they are practically in the same position as the missionary in the States who has to pay his own travel expenses and furnish his own home.

It would be inconsistent, to say the least, if the Board required, as it did, that Mr. Gladfelter should buy of Mr. Beck the furniture which the latter left at Hoonah, and then purchase of Mr. Winterberger and give to his successor the furniture which the former purchased from his own funds. I have expressed the same thought to Mr. Winterberger.

The Board recently showed its practical sympathy with the financial difficulties of the men in Alaska by increasing the salaries of all in that territory, and it seems to me that this is all that the Board can consistently do inasmuch as wherever a man casts his lot he must, of necessity, supply the needed things for his home.

Very truly yours,

VB/K Assistant Treasurer.

PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON
JAMES H. CONDIT
STATED CLERK

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS
No. 156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
JAMES H. CONDIT, D. D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

March 20,1919

Mr. Varian Banks,

156 5th Avenue, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Banks:

Replying to your letter of February 5th regarding corporate obligations in Alaska, would say that I have investigated the same in the office of the Secretary of the Territory and find the following:-

1. All corporations doing business in Alaska must file articles of incorporation, in accordande with the copy of "Compiled Laws of Alaska," Chapter 23, Sec.654, and following, which I herewith enclose.

2. Also, must appoint a resident agent with record of such appointment in each of the four divisions, as by the same law.

3. Must pay an annual license fee of $15

4. Must file in each recording district an annual statement.

One and two of the above regulations have been met, one, at the time of the passage of this law(I believe that it was in 1913); two, last year when I was appointed resident agent of the Board. The fee of five dollars and the recording fees in the four divisions were paid.

As regards three, annual licensefee, Section 13 of Chapter 11, Session Laws of Alaska,1913, (copy enclosed) excepts religious bodies from paying the same.

Regulation four has not been observed by the Board for the year ending March 31,1918, the last annual statement on file being that terminating with the year March 31,1917.

The fee for filing such statement in the Secretary's office is One Dollar and a fee of 10¢ is required in each Division for filing the statement with the Clerk of Court, making a total annual expense for this purpose of $1.40.

It will be noticed that five copies of this annual statement must be furnished by the Board, one for the Secretary of the Territory and one for each of the four Divisions.

I am herewith enclosing twelve copies of the blank form to be used in making this annual statement. I am sending copies sufficient for the report for the year ending March 31,1918 and also for the year ending March 31,1919, which will soon be due.

I may add that the law regarding annual statement sets December 31st as the date for such return. But the custom of the Board has been to make its statement correspond with its fiscal year and to this there has apparently been no remonstrance.

Very sincerely yours,

James H. Condit

Sec.654. All corporations or joint stock companies organized under the laws of the United States, or the laws of any State or Territory of the United States, shall, before doing business within the District, file in the office of the Secretary of the District and in the office of the clerk of the district court for the division wherein they intend to carry on business, a duly authenticated copy of their charter or articles of incorporation, and also a statement, verified by the oath of the president and secretary of such corporation, and attested by a majority of its board of directors, showing—

(1) The name of such corporation and the location of its principal office or place of business without the District; and, if it is to have any place of business or principal office within the District, the location thereof;

(2) The amount of capital stock;

(3) The amount of its capital stock actually paid in in money;

(4) The amount of its capital stock paid in in any other way, and in what;

(5) The amount of the assets of the corporation, and of what the assets consist, with the actual cash value thereof;

(6) The liabilities of such corporation, and if any of its indebtedness is secured, how secured, and upon what property.

Such corporation or joint stock company shall also file, at the same time and in the same offices, a certificate, under the seal of the corporation and the signature of its president, vice president, or other acting head, and its secretary, if there be one, certifying that the corporation has consented to be sued in the courts of the district upon all causes of action arising against it in the district, and that service of process may be made upon some person, a resident of the district, whose name and place of residence shall be designated in such certificate, and such service, when so made upon such agent, shall be valid service on the corporation or company, and such agent shall reside at the principal place of business of such corporation or company in the district.

sec.655. The written consent of the person so designated to act as such agent shall also be filed in like manner, and such designation shall remain in force until the filing in the same offices of a written revocation thereof, or of the consent, executed in like manner. A certified copy of the designation so filed, accompanied with a certificate that it has not been revoked, is presumptive evidence of the execution thereof, and conclusive evidence of the authority of the officer executing it.

sec.656. In case of the death, removal from the district, or disqualification of the person so designated, or of the revocation of his consent, it shall be the duty of the clerk of the district court to notify such corporation or company; and it shall be the duty of such corporation or company, within sixty days thereafter, to designate another person in the manner hereinbefore provided.

sec.657. If any such corporation or company shall attempt or commence to do business in the district without having first filed such statements, certificates and consents required by this chapter, it shall forfeit the sum of twenty-five dollars for every day it shall so neglect to file the same; and every contract made by such corporation, or any agent or agents thereof, during the time it shall so neglect to file such statements, certificates, or consents, shall be voidable at the election of the other party thereto. It shall be the duty of the United States Attorney for the district to sue for and recover, in the name of the United States, the penalty above provided, and the same, when so recovered, shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

sec.658. Every such corporation or company shall annually, and within thirty days from the first day of July of each year, make a report, which shall be in the same form and contain the same information as required in the statement mentioned in Section 654 of this chapter, which report shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the district, and a duplicate thereof in the office of the clerk of the district court for the division wherein the business of the corporation is carried on.

sec.659. (Not now effective.)

sec.660. If any such corporation or company shall fail to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter, all its contracts with citizens of the district shall be void as to the corporation or company, and no court of the district, or of the United States, shall enforce the same in favor of the corporation or company so failing.

June 16, 1919.

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.

Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Condit:-

We have supplied the required acknowledgments to the Annual Statement submitted through you for the years of 1918 and 1919 and they have now gone forward in the envelopes which you furnished addressed to the respective offices where they are to be filed. It was a careless thing on my part to have overlooked these acknowledgments.

Yours sincerely,

VB/K Assistant Treasurer.

June 20, 1919.

Memorandum for Dr. Marquis:

IN RE ALASKAN PROPERTIES

There is need for the adoption of some permanent policy by the Board regarding the use or disposition to be made of the excess land owned by the Board which is not required in the mission work at the various points throughout Alaska territory. The brethren are not unanimous as to the best procedure to be followed; some believe that the leasing idea should be adopted, others, that the excess property not required by the Board should be sold, and still others have felt that the Board should quitclaim to the natives, without charge, small lots of ground on which their homes may be erected.

The point has been made, and it seems to me well taken, that to quitclaim outright, without a fair consideration, building lots to the natives at any one given point, would not only embarrass the Board, but would doubtless cause unfortunate misunderstandings elsewhere as an action of this kind adopted by the Board would become known throughout Alaska generally, and, therefore, the natives of one district would feel that they were not accorded the same consideration.

The present situation concerning two of the properties in Alaska would seem to require different treatment, viz:

HOONAH

At this place the Board owns 15.16 acres; probably 14 acres not required by the Board is available for the use of the natives. There is no other land at Hoonah that can be put to such use. The Hoonah natives are now living in community houses, and it has long been the desire of the former missionary there, Rev. George E. Beck, to have this property platted into lots that an attractive proposition may be submitted to the natives by which they can be induced to give up living in the undesirable and unsanitary way as in the past and build separate homes so as to adopt separate family living. I has been Mr. Beck's contention that inasmuch as the land was acquired for the use of the Indians that lots should be quitclaimed to those who had proven their eligibility for citizenship, without cost.

This plan, however, as above stated, would undoubtedly prove to be unwise. After careful study of the situation I am ready to recommend that we offer building lots to the natives at Hoonah for a sum far below the value of the lots, so that even though it may not name a price as large as may be demanded elsewhere this plan, if adopted, could be carried out as soon as a survey which is hoped to be made this summer, is completed. Tentative assurance has already been given to Mr. Gladfelter, missionary at Hoonah, that as soon as a survey is made the Board will present an attractive proposition to the natives in order that they may select lots and encourage them to build their own homes.

HAINES

At this point we have a large tract of land containing 266.54 acres. It is, of course, apparent that this amount of land is far beyond our needs and requirements, either now or in the future. Part of this land has been cleared and we now have, through the splendid work accomplished by Rev. E.L. Winterberger, a good sized farm which has been developed so successfully as to bring in profit to the Board up to the time Mr. Winterberger left for Skagway.

The farm implements and live stock have now been sold and the farm leased for the present year, pending final decision as to the disposition to be made of the farm. There is also a considerable tract of land that has been platted and lots have now been leased to the natives and whites for five years from May 1st, 1916 at the nominal sum of $1.00 per year.

As I understand it, the leasing idea was adopted for the purpose of compelling the natives to recognize the authority and ownership of the Board and to make the lease a legal one it was necessary to name a consideration. The impression has gone forth, although whether it is general or limited I do not know, that this $1.00 per year is more or less graft enjoyed by the missionary. Mr. Winterberger said that while this might be so or not, he was not disturbed over this rumor inasmuch as the Board had approved of the leasing proposition and the rentals had been transmitted to the Treasurer.

FORT WRANGELL

Here we have 7.81 acres, the greater portion of which is occupied for our work. A rough pencil sketch of a proposed sub-division of this Wrangell tract has been submitted by Rev. J.S. Clark, providing for the retention by the Board of an ample amount of land for the church and manse, the balance to be sold in lots. It is estimated that 36 lots can be sold for an approximate sum of about $7,000. As I understand it, these lots are not required by the natives, and, therefore, the Board is at liberty to adopt such a plan as it may think best without fearing any embarrassment in connection with the procedure to be followed at other places.

The Board has other properties of less acreage in Alaska, but the foregoing instances will be suffieient for a fairly intelligent consideration by you of the whole property question.

Mr. Winterberger, to whom I had written requesting a frank expression of his judgment from his experience at Haines, wrote as follows:

> "I would lay down two or three principles by which applications would be received, and these when made would entitle the natives to purchase at a reasonable rate lots from the mission property on which to build houses. Once, however, sold, I would neither seek to embarrass, nor control the land in any particular. In other words,I would treat the natives in the transactions just as I would treat a white man.
>
> "It must be remembered that so soon as you give title to a lot, every native in S.E. Alaska will know of the transaction. You will not have to make any announcement; they will make it for you."

The point has been made by Mr. Winterberger, and also by Mr. Beck in a conference had with him, as expressed by Mr. Winterbgrger in the last sentence above quoted, will doubtless represent the judgment of the majority of the men in Alaska. For instance, at Hoonah the natives have been taught by precept and example that they must earn the right to become citizens and a number of them are now eligible for citizenship, and surprise has been expressed by them time and time again that the Board seems unwilling to treat them with the same consideration as one white man gives to another.

The situation at Haines is so different from the conditions which obtain at all the other points in Alaska, and requires a somewhat different treatment. Mr. Winterberger, now at Skagway, whom I trust you will meet, will give you very helpful facts and will be, I am sure, able to propose a permanent plan to be followed regarding the disposition to be made of the large tract of land at Haines.

VB/K

Sec.654. All corporations or joint stock companies organized under the laws of the United States, or the laws of any State or Territory of the United States, shall, before doing business within the District, file in the office of the Secretary of the District and in the office of the clerk of the district court for the division wherein they intend to carry on business, a duly authenticated copy of their charter or articles of incorporation, and also a statement, verified by the oath of the president and secretary of such corporation, and attested by a majority of its board of directors, showing—

(1) The name of such corporation and the location of its principal office or place of business without the District; and, if it is to have any place of business or principal office within the District, the location thereof;

(2) The amount of capital stock;

(3) The amount of its capital stock actually paid in in money;

(4) The amount of its capital stock paid in in any other way, and in what;

(5) The amount of the assets of the corporation, and of what the assets consist, with the actual cash value thereof;

(6) The liabilities of such corporation, and if any of its indebtedness is secured, how secured, and upon what property.

Such corporation or joint stock company shall also file, at the same time and in the same offices, a certificate, under the seal of the corporation and the signature of its president, vice president, or other acting head, and its secretary, if there be one, certifying that the corporation has consented to be sued in the courts of the district upon all causes of action arising against it in the district, and that service of process may be made upon some person, a resident of the district, whose name and place of residence shall be designated in such certificate, and such service, when so made upon such agent, shall be valid service on the corporation or company, and such agent shall reside at the principal place of business of such corporation or company in the district.

sec.655. The written consent of the person so designated to act as such agent shall also be filed in like manner, and such designation shall remain in force until the filing in the same offices of a written revocation thereof, or of the consent, executed in like manner. A certified copy of the designation so filed, accompanied with a certificate that it has not been revoked, is presumptive evidence of the execution thereof, and conclusive evidence of the authority of the officer executing it.

sec.656. In case of the death, removal from the district, or disqualification of the person so designated, or of the revocation of his consent, it shall be the duty of the clerk of the district court to notify such corporation or company; and it shall be the duty of such corporation or company, within sixty days thereafter, to designate another person in the manner hereinbefore provided.

sec.657. If any such corporation or company shall attempt or commence to do business in the district without having first filed such statements, certificates and consents required by this chapter, it shall forfeit the sum of twenty-five dollars for every day it shall so neglect to file the same; and every contract made by such corporation, or any agent or agents thereof, during the time it shall so neglect to file such statements, certificates, or consents, shall be voidable at the election of the other party thereto. It shall be the duty of the United States Attorney for the district to sue for and recover, in the name of the United States, the penalty above provided, and the same, when so recovered, shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

sec.658. Every such corporation or company shall annually, and within thirty days from the first day of July of each year, make a report, which shall be in the same form and contain the same information as required in the statement mentioned in Section 654 of this chapter, which report shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the district, and a duplicate thereof in the office of the clerk of the district court for the division wherein the business of the corporation is carried on.

sec.659. (Not now effective.)

sec.660. If any such corporation or company shall fail to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter, all its contracts with citizens of the district shall be void as to the corporation or company, and no court of the district, or of the United States, shall enforce the same in favor of the corporation or company so failing.

October 9, 1919.

In re Alaskan Properties:

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Condit:-

Owing to the limited time at the disposal of Dr. Marquis upon his return to the office, due to the demands made upon him concerning matters outside of the office, his full report and recommendations concerning Alaskan matters has not been presented either to the Executive Council or to the Board. Probably the most important item, however, was considered by the Executive Council, namely, the policy of the Board regarding properties held by it in behalf of the work. The Executive Council in considering this matter adopted the recommendations of Dr. Marquis which were as follows:

(1) That the proceeds derived from the sale of property acquired from the United States Government be used for our work among the natives in Alaska.

(2) That where the Indians need any of this property upon which to erect homes for themselves, the required amount of land be given them in fee simple for the cost of transfer, with the proviso in the deed that such land cannot be resold except upon approval of the Board.

Regarding the above action, let me call attention to the first item concerning the limitations as to the use of the proceeds received from sales. The Executive Council does not sympathize with the position as expressed in the past by yourself and one or two others possibly, that when once money is invested in Alaskan properties it should always remain there, but it does approve of the idea where a property is acquired through patent received from the United States Government that sales from the properties so received rightfully belong to the work in Alaska as the property was originally acquired for the benefit of the native population. In considering the question of new property acquirements, therefore, the amount available insofar as sales are concerned, which may depend upon the amount realized from the sales, the above limitations should be kept in mind, as where we have acquired property through purchase or the sale of buildings erected from funds provided by this Board, the proceeds from the sale of such property are to be excepted from the above provision.

The second item, you will note, approves the transfer of property to the Indians upon condition that a clause be inserted in the deed making it possible for the Indian to sell only upon the consent of the Board. This condition was included in view of your own recommendation, as I understand it, that the Indian should be protected from himself as there will doubtless be a few cases, if not many, where the Indians when once they acquire property will be induced to sell it to some scheming white individual. The deed, therefore, will in effect be called a "trust deed" inasmuch as it will convey to the Indian the right to use the property in any way he sees fit and to erect thereon such buildings as he may wish, and will continue

such rights to his heirs, but will not permit him to dispose of the property in any way. The question of this form of deed will be taken up with our General Counsel and when formulated I will write you definitely as to this.

I quote from our bylaws regarding the duties of our Finance Committee:

> "j. The Finance Committee shall have the direction of the Treasurer in the custody and sale of properties belonging to the Board and in the disposition of the funds accruing therefrom, in the acquisition of new properties required for the work of the Board, and in his correspondence relating thereto."

Our Finance Committee, of course, will be largely guided by your own recommendations after full investigation on any matter concerning the property interest of Alaska, and will give full consideration to each case as it may be presented by you from time to time. You, of course, can send such recommendations direct to me as our usual procedure in all matters of this kind require that the Treasurer shall submit all such items to the Finance Committee at the regular meetings.

The following minute was also recorded as the action of our Executive Council, viz:

> "Dr. Marquis reported that it was Dr. Condit's opinion that the land at Haines should be held by the Board for the present and not disposed of; that the Indians could not use it; and with the railroad coming in the property could be used for railroad shops, etc. It was, therefore, Dr. Condit's advice to hold the land at Haines until a good price could be obtained for it."

While the foregoing quotation was inserted in the minutes of the Executive Council as a note, it was understood that tentatively it would represent the present attitude of the Board toward the property at Haines.

I believe the foregoing covers the full action of the Council as approved by the Board at its late meeting held on the 25th ult.

Sincerely yours,

VD/K Assistant Treasurer.

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

WILTON MERLE-SMITH, PRESIDENT
JOHN A. MARQUIS, GENERAL SECRETARY
BAXTER P. FULLERTON, SECRETARY
JOHN McDOWELL, SECRETARY
WILLIAM ROBERT KING, SECRETARY
VARIAN BANKS, ASSISTANT TREASURER

Alaska
Sale of property

October 31, 1919.

Mr. Banks:-

The Board at its recent meeting referred with power to the Committee on Work in Alaska, the following recommendations which were presented by Dr. Marquis:

1. That the proceeds from the sale of property ~~belonging to the U.S. Govt~~ be used for our work among the natives in Alaska.
2. That where the Indians need any of this property, it be given to them in fee simple for the cost of transfer, with the proviso in the deed that it can be re-sold only on approval of this Board.
3. That the time for the sale of the property, terms, etc., be left to the judgment of the Finance Committee of the Board and the Superintendent in Alaska.

The Committee has taken favorable action thereon and I would ask you to communicate this fact to the Finance Committee.

Very sincerely yours,

John Dixon

Re Alaskan Properties:

November 6th, 1919.

Rev. Carl S. Gladfelter,
Hoonah, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Gladfelter:-

I have just learned that you have referred in your Quarterly Report to the desirability of arranging for the transfer to native Indians at Hoonah of land upon which they may erect homes in order to enable them to give up the tribal houses. I fully appreciate the desirability of having this accomplished at the earliest possible moment, but, unfortunately, it was necessary to obtain a decision on the part of the Board as regards a general policy to be pursued in connection with the lands received by the Board through patent from the United States Government, and only since the return of Dr. Marquis from his Alaska trip has definite progress been made. We have gotten this far, that at the next meeting of the Board, to be held on the 13th inst., the Executive Council of the Board will recommend,-

(1) That the proceeds derived from the sale of property acquired from the United States Government be used for our work among the natives in Alaska.

(2) That where the Indians need any of this property upon which to erect homes for themselves the required amount of land be given them in fee simple for the cost of transfer, with the proviso in the deed that such land cannot be resold except upon approval of the Board.

From the foregoing you will note that the effect of item No. 2 is simply this, that so long as the Indian lives and so long as his heirs retain the property for their own use they will be left in undisturbed possession of same. It is not intended that the Indians shall sell these home lands to white citizens in order to avoid the injection of an undesirable situation at any time in the future. Just how the conditions will be incorporated in the deed have not been determined, as the matter will be referred to the General Council of the Board after the Board takes action on the two recommendations above quoted. I may, therefore, hold out the hope that by the first week of next month I will be in a position to take up the matter of informing all the brethren in Alaska just what the Board can do and under what conditions property can be transferred to the natives.

In the meantime we will require the names of those whom the various missionaries wish to recommend to whom these ~~these~~ housing lots may be transferred. You will recall that you have made no recommendations whatever along this line and therefore the deeds cannot be made out, nor final progress made until we have this necessary information.

Now, one other matter. In your report , from the fact that you refer to Moanah Mission patent having been surveyed the past summer, I assume that you have a copy of it, which I would like to have if in your possession. I assume that this survey provides for an accurate description of each lot. This is essential in order to carry through the desired transfer. Please bear in mind that we need all the facts and information that we can have in connection with these property transfers, and therefore give me all the data that you have.

Yours sincerely,

November 6th, 1919.

In re Alaskan Properties:

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.,

Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Condit:-

I have yours of the 21st ult., in which you ask if any action was taken regarding the sale of lots from the Wrangell mission tract, as per your letter of February 1st last. As definite a reply as I could give has been forwarded in my letter addressed to you, under date of October 9th, the letter being written after the return of Dr. Marquis from his Alaskan trip.

We expect that the two recommendations approved by the Executive Council, which I quoted in my letter to you will be considered and approved by the Board at its next meeting, to be held on the 13th inst. Should these recommendations be adopted then the matter will be submitted to the General Council of this Board to formulate a deed which will embody the conditions mentioned in recommendation (2).

I have written to Mr. Gladfelter concerning the property situation at Hoonah, giving him in effect the foregoing information and asking that he submit direct to this office, or through yourself, the names of the native Indians whom he recommends as worthy and desirable recipients of deeds to be transferred to them by the Board so as to permit of their removal from the tribal houses. At the present time we do not have a copy of the survey made of the mission premises in Hoonah the past summer. I have asked Mr. Gladfelter for a copy of such survey if he has it. If you have it I will be glad to secure such copy, in order that we may, with as full intelligence as possible, consider the Hoonah situation in a definite manner. We of course have the plat of the Wrangell property, so that we can make progress in the latter case just as soon as circumstances warrant.

Yours sincerely,

December 1, 1919.

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.,

Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Condit:-

My card file notes that about December 1st, or soon thereafter, we are to file the Financial Statement, Annual Report, of this Board for the year ending June 30th, 1919.

If this is correct will you kindly send the necessary blank forms and I will have them properly filled out and duly signed by the President and attested by the Secretary of the Board. The last statements we filed were not signed by the members of the Board, as I believe you informed me that this was not necessary. We will find it very difficult indeed to secure the signatures to the statement and I trust that as it is simply a formal matter and an annual one at that that it will not be necessary to go to this trouble.

I will, therefore, assume that unless I hear from you to the contrary the absence of the signatures of the members of the Board will be acceptable.

Yours very sincerely,

Assistant Treasurer.

B-CM

January 5, 1920.

In re Alaska Financial Statements.

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Condit:

This will acknowledge your letter of the 20th instant, with which you enclosed half a dozen blank forms, for the purpose of making out in acceptable manner the Annual Statement required by the laws of Alaska from foreign corporations.

I note from the copy of the Act regulating and prescribing fees and license tax to be paid by domestic corporations and by foreign corporations doing business in the Territory of Alaska, that Section 13 reads as follows:

> "Sec. 13. Not To Apply To Certain Corporations.--This act shall not apply to domestic corporations organized for religious, fraternal, scientific, benevolent, social, charitable or educational purposes, or to foreign corporations organized for like purposes, when not engaged in this Territory in the loaning of money or the conducting of any other business pursuits for profits."

This would make it appear that as this Board is not engaged in the Territory in the loaning of money or in the conducting of any other business pursuits for profits, that the license fees or, in fact, the necessity of filing any such statement, apparently does not concern this Board. I have, therefore, thought best to refer this matter once more to you, that this point may be cleared up definitely.

It does seem almost bordering on nonsense for this Board to be required to file such financial statements as were intended primarily to apply only to business corporations, when the Board of Home Missions is conducting its work in Alaska solely for the benefit of both the white and native populations, and always pours into that Territory thousands of dollars annually for the sole purpose of bettering the various communities which are served by the Board representatives.

This, however, is not a question that can be given consideration by the constituted authorities at this time, but it seems to have special significance in view of that part of the laws of the Territory which I quoted above. I will, therefore, await your reply to the foregoing before filling out the blank forms you secured for us.

VB/O. Very sincerely yours,

Assistant Treasurer.

JOHN B. MARSHALL
ATTORNEY AT LAW
JUNEAU, ALASKA

February 20th, 1920

Dr. J. H. Condit,
Juneau

In the Matter of the requirements of the Territorial laws respecting foreign corporations:

Dear Sir:

Chapter 11 of the Session Laws of Alaska for 1913, entitled, "An act regulating and prescribing fees and license tax to be paid by domestic corporations and by foreign corporations doing business in the Territory of Alaska", repeals all acts inconsistent therewith and provides, amongst other things, for the payment of an annual license fee. Then, in section 13 of the act it is stated that,-

> "This act shall not apply to domestic corporations organized for religious, fraternal, scientific, benevolent, social, charitable or educational purposes, or to foreign corporations organized for like purposes, when not engaged in this Territory in the loaning of money or the conducting of any other business pursuits for profit."

It is, therefore, clear that the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterean Church is not required to pay the annual license fee of foreign corporations organized for profit.

There are, however, certain provisions of the law governing foreign corporations in the Territory, from the burdens of which religious corporations have not been specifically excepted, and which therefore remain applicable to the Board of Home Missions. These requirements are set forth in section 654 of the Compiled Laws of Alaska, and require the filing of an authenticated copy of the articles of incorporation, a statement containing certain information, and also the appointment of a resident agent, while section 655 requires the filing of the written consent of the person designated to act as such agent. Then, section 658 requires the filing of an annual statement containing the same information as prescribed by section 654.

This section 658 was amended by Chapter 20 of the laws of 1917, the only effect of the amendment being tochange the date when the said annual report is to be filed, making the same within sixty days after January 1st of each year, and was further amended by Chapter 22 of the Laws of 1919, only to the extent of authorizing the Secretary of the Territory to grant further time for the filing of the annual report.

JHC3-Feby 20, 1920

The Board having complied with the provisions regarding the filing of an authenticated copy of its articles of incorporation and the original statement and appointment of a resident agent, as required by section 654 of the Compiled Laws, and the consent of such agent to act as required by section 655, it has no further obligation whatsoever but the filing of an annual report within sixty days after the first day of January of each year, the contents of which are prescribed by said section 654 of the Compiled Laws.

It is always to be borne in mind, however, that the resident agency must be maintained and, in the event of your disqualification from any cause, a new appointment should be made.

Very truly yours,

John S. Macdonald

PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON
JAMES H. CONDIT
STATED CLERK

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS
No. 156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
JAMES H. CONDIT, D.D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU ALASKA

February 23,1920

Mr. Varian Banks,
156 5th Avenue,
New York.

Dear Mr. Banks:

In a recent letter I referred to a legal opinion of Judge John B. Marshall. It might be well to state in this connection that inasmuch as the Board has had no stipulated legal adviser in Alaska since the death of Judge Gunnison I have followed the plan of seeking specific service with a specific fee rendered for such service.

I have entered into such an arrangement with Judge Marshall and have spoken to him of the large expense to the Board which the arrangement with Judge Gunnison involved and that it was the present policy to ask for advise when needed,only, and with the understanding that a bill for such specific service be rendered rather than a contract for continuous relations.

Mr. Marshall is a member of the Presbyterian Church here and a thoroughly competent lawyer. I feel that the interests of the Board committed to him will be well cared for.

Sincerely yours,

James H. Condit

PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON
JAMES H. CONDIT
STATED CLERK

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

HEADQUARTERS
NO. 156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
JAMES H. CONDIT, D.D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

March 5,1920

Mr. Varian Banks,

156 5th Avenue, New York.

Dear Mr. Banks:

Here is a bill which I frankly confess worries me. I wrote you a short time since regarding certain questions which you had asked relative to execution of deeds in Alaska and the extent to which the Board must comply with the law governing foreign corporations. At that time I enclosed two written opinions of Judge J.B.Marshall, of this place, and at the same time indicated that I would consult with him in matters pertaining to legal business of the Board in the Territory, he to be employed only at such times as especially needed rather than as by the arrangement with Judge Gunnison, deceased.

I have at other times consulted Judge Marshall, but no bill was ever rendered. As at other times I suggested in this instance that he render a bill for services and the enclosed is the result.

Considered as the particular service rendered in the two items indicated I feel that the charge is to say the least ample. Considered from the point of past services rendered without charge and as including such services in this bill, it is not exorbitant.

In any event the bills have been rendered as enclosed. As I will be gone from Juneau before you could get a check in payment to me I would suggest that remittance be made directly to Judge J.B.Marshall, Juneau.

It is needless to say that in the future I shall refrain from all inquiries from members of the legal fraternity unless the exigencies of the case imperatively demand formal consultation.

Sincerely yours,

James H. Condit

April 23, 1920.

In re: Alaska Property.

John B. Marshall, Esq.,

Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed you will find check to your order for $35.00, in payment of the bill rendered to this Board, dated March 1st, 1920, for legal services rendered in consultations with our Dr. Condit.

Yours very truly,

ENC. Assistant Treasurer.

VB/EK.

Alaska File

Copy

Sept. 20, 1920.

Rev. John A. Marquis,D.D.,LL?D.,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

D^ear Dr. Marquis;

It fills me with real joy to be able to write you again on the various Alaska questions. This letter concerns the Kake Mission and young Mr. Story.

First of all a word in regard to the dismissal of Mr.Fitzgerald. It was not so arbitrary or sudden as Dr. Dixon seemed to think. I had talked quite frankly with Mr. Fitzgerald on several occasions during the past year and had told him of our intention to substitute native missionaries for the whites in such missions as Kake. I told him that it was probable that he would be relieved at the close of the fiscial year.

I tried to get him the school at Klukwan but the Bureau of Education Superintendents would not accept him or his wife as teacher.

The reasons for the action of the Presbyterial Committee were-

1- The disregard of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald of personal cleanliness. He seemed to be too indolent to wask himself or to dress in neat clothes.

2- He was very unacceptable to the natives and to the few whites who lived at Kake. He has a violent temper and at the same time not force enough of character to influence and control the natives. The mission has been running down under his management and the Salvation Army has regularly been stealing away our members.

3- It is very necessary in all these missions that the Government School and the mission workers should work in harmony. There is a considerable difference between Mr. Fitzgerald and the Government teachers at Kake.

4- Since it is inevitable that he would have to go not later than next spring it would not be kindness either to him or to the Kake people to have him continue there for the remaining few months of the fiscial year.

The Presbyterial Committee have granted Mr. Fitzgerald one months extension on his vacation time and they ask that the Board continue to pay his salary until Dec. first, and that the Board also pay the traveling expenses of himself and family to their home in New Mexico. This will come out of the $1000 in the Budget for that purpose.

Now the Presbytery and myself ask that Rev. H.H.Story, of Grimes, Cal., be appointed to Kake mission, his appointment beginning Dec.1st. Mr. Story has resigned his charge at Grimes, the resignation to take affect Nov.1st. There were other reasons besides his desire to go to Alaska that induced him to resign. I am writing him suggesting that he come on to Alaska Nov.1st. A large part of his fathers library and other goods are still at Hydaburg. There has been some difficulty in getting these things to Dr. Story and his son would be the one to make the selection of the goods that are to remain and that are to go to Dr. Story. I expect to attend the meeting of the Alaska Brotherhood at Bayview Nov.12. This will be a very important meeting and representatives of the best native classwill be there from all the tribes of the Archipelago.. As Mr. Story's ultimate field will probably be the West Coast region, including Bayview, Hydaburg, Craig, etc., it will be of great benifit to him to look over the ground. It is necessary for me to make a somewhat extended visit to Hydaburg this fall and adjust various matters in that mission and I have suggested to Mr. Story that he go with me. I ask the Board to give him therefore his traveling expenses a month in advance of his commission if he wishes to spend the month of November in Alaska at his own expense. I have no doubt that he will choose to do this.

My plan would be to meet Mr. Story at Wrangell soon after election day which is Nov.7th and travel with him to the West Coast and to Kasaan, Metlakatla and Ketchikan, returning to Petersburg by Dec. first and going with Mr. Story and his wife to establish them at Kake.

The manse at Kake is a reasonably good one altho there is very little furniture in it. I hope the Board will carry out its new policy there and at least partially furnish the manse for Mr. Story.

I believe that we are going to get a good man in young Story. The more we hear of him and his work the better we like him. Dr. Keeler of Seattle strongly recommends him. Please take action as soon as possible on his application and wire him of his appointment.

This letter is written after full consultation with Dr. Bruce, Mr. Waggoner and Mr. Beck. We are all agreed.

As to whether Mr. Story is to continue at Kake or go to the West Coast next summer is a question to be decided when the time comes. He understands that we are trying him out.

Mr Story is an experienced gas boat man and as the Kake boat is to be finished and called the A.L.Lindsley and its maintainance is guaranteed by the First Churchof Portland, Oregan, this is another reason for

for the immediate appointment of Mr. Story to that field. He will have to oversee the calking of the hull and the preperation of the boat to receive its engine. Mr. Waggoner has $250 in hand for this work, and more promised.

It would be well to wire both Mr. Story and myself of the action of the Board.

Very cordially,

L. H. Holloway

January 22nd, 1921.

Rev. J. H. Condit, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Condit:

You will recall that we had some correspondence a year ago, more or less, concerning the laws of Alaska which required that all foreign corporations shall file an annual financial statement. The small amount charged for the annual fee is of no moment in itself, and the making out of the annual statement is not a particularly bothersome thing so that I am not taking this matter up with you now to either save trouble or expense, but rather for the specific purpose of discussing the advisability of making an effort to have the laws of the Territory so modified regarding foreign corporations as to make this Board exempt from complying with the present law. I take it that the laws on the Statute Books of the Territory were designed specifically to regulate the operations of commercial corporations in securing benefits from doing business in Alaska to the exclusion of the rights or benefits to be derived by ther Territory.

This Board, last year, spent in round figures the sum of $31,000 for mission work in Alaska in the various communities served by our missionaries for the sole purpose of aiding the people along the lines of their evident needs, in a physical way as well as spiritually; not one dollar, directly or indirectly, was taken out of the territory by this Board. The present laws of the territory as applied to missionary organizations are in effect based upon the same principle as in the case of a man of charitable inclinations who desires to visit one's home with much needed help but who is required to pay a fee before entering that home.

I do not know how much effort it would require and what cooperation would be needed in order to have the local legislature consider the question of adopting a clause exempting purely charitable or missionary organizations from the necessity for filing annual financial statements. Is it not possible to obtain an amendment to the present laws which will contain the proviso that all missionary or charitable organizations conducting benevolent work within the bounds of the Territory shall, upon the filing of a certified copy of their charter be immune from the present law.

The fact that this Board is required to pay even a fee however small with the foreknowledge that its operations in Alaska are conducted solely for the benefit of the natives and citizens of that territory would seem to be a sufficient basis upon which to consider the advisability of the amendment above suggested. The State of New York recognizes this Board is properly immune from a tax of any kind and this fact might well be taken into consideration.

Sincerely yours,

VB MG Assistant Treasurer

January 24th, 1921.

Rev. J. H. Condit, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Condit:

Enclosed you will find a letter concerning the present law on the Statute Books of the Territory of Alaska under which law this Board is required to file annual financial statement. I prepared this letter so that you may show it to any one or use it in any way you may see fit, if in your judgment it would be advisable, or opportune, to submit this question say to one of the legislators of the Territory whom you may know.

Of course I do not need to submit any arguments for your consideration and therefore, leave it to you in the event that you decide to make an effort to carry out the suggestion contained in the enclosed letter, to amplify the same in any way you see fit, or, on the other hand, if from your knowledge of conditions you do not think it advisable to take up a matter of this kind, please give me your frank opinion. I have not taken this up with our Finance Committee for the reason that it will be ample time to bring this to their consideration if the way seems open to take definite steps towards securing the proper recognition of our Board as a copporation that technically only comes under the review of the spirit of the laws of the Territory.

It may be said that there is too little to be gained to warrant taking steps to carry out the suggestions made, but no one can tell what the future may bring; and it is quite possible that it would be of some advantage to the Board if its status as a purely missionary organization was recognized by the Territorial laws.

I enclose the financial statement of this Board covering its fiscal year ending March 31, 1920, as I note from our records that the last financial statement covered the previous fiscal year.

Also find enclosed check to your order for $1.40 covering fees of 10¢ each for copies to be filed with the recorder in each of the four districts and $1. for the copy to be filed with the Territorial Secretary. As heretofore these statements are signed on behalf of the Board by the Vice-president (the President being absent) and attested by our Secretary, with corporate seal attached.

Sincerely yours,

VB MG Assistant Treasurer

Enc. 8

Woman's Board of Home Missions
of the
Presbyterian Church in the United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. February 10th, 1921.

My dear Mr. Banks:

Thank you for your letter of February 8th telling me that hereafter communications or conferences in regard to buildings and property should be arranged with Dr. Patterson.

I shall talk over the Alaskan situation with Dr. Patterson before I sail for that station the last of April.

While I do not doubt that Dr. Patterson will be most cordial and helpful, I can not but regret that I shall no longer have the opportunity and pleasure of bringing my property problems to you. I want you to know how much I appreciate your patience and your valuable advice whenever I have sought your assistance.

Very sincerely yours,

Edna P. Voss

Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Varian Banks,
Board of Home Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

V/M

Copy

February 16,1921

Hon. J.C.Murphy,
Atty. General,
Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Murphy:

I am herewith enclosing a letter from the Treasurer of our Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church , Mr. Varian Banks, 156 5th Avenue, New York, relative to the requirement that all corporations doing business in Alaska shall file an annual statement with the Territorial Secretary and Clerks of Court of the several Districts.

The letter sets forth the reasons why we feel that a corporation purely eleemosynary should be exempt from this law.

I would much appreciate a statement from you as to the proper course to pursue in order to have this matter properly presented at the next meeting of the Legislature with a view to the repeal of the law in so far as it applies to our Board or other similar institutions.

Also, in order that I may make proper provision therefore, a suggestion as to the probable cost or charges in connection with presenting a proposed amendment to the existing laws.

After reading the enclosed will you kindly return the same to me for my files.

Very sincerely yours,

James A. Condit

J.C.Murphy
Attorney General

COPY

Territory of Alaska
Office of Attorney General

February 21st, 1921.

Rev. James H. Condit,
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Condit:-

Yours of February 16th received with letter enclosed from the Board of Home Missions of New York City with reference to the Corporation making out an annual report as is required by Chapter 22 of the Session Laws of Alaska for 1919.

I believe that you are perfectly right in your contention that a corporation such as the Board of Home Missions, which is doing purely eleemosynary work in the Territory, should not be compelled to come within the same conditions that are prescribed for business corporations.

This office is now making out its biennial report and we will recommend that this law be amended so as to exempt your particular corporation and others doing like work.

With reference to the lawt portion of your letter wherein you ask what the probable cost would be for getting this amendment through the legislature, I would state I believe if you see any of the members of the legislature that they will gladly get this amendment through for you without cost.

With very kindest regards and best wishes for the continuation of your good work, I am

Very respectfully yours,

(signed) J.C.Murphy

Attorney General

J.C.Murphy
Attorney General

C O P Y

Territory of Alaska
Office of Attorney General

February 21st, 1921.

Rev. James H. Condit,
Juneau, Alaska.

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With very kindest regards and best wishes for the continuation of your good work, I am

Very respectfully yours,

(signed) J.C.Murphy

Attorney General

PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON
JAMES H. CONDIT
STATED CLERK

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS
NO. 156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
JAMES H. CONDIT, D. D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

February 23,1921

Mr. Varian Banks,
156 5th Avenue,
New York.

Dear Mr. Banks:

Just on the eve of starting for Seattle I am in receipt of the enclosed letter from the Attorney General of Alaska in reply to your letter of January 22,1921, which I sub,mitted to him with my letter of February 16,1921, copy of which I enclose.

I would like the letter of Mr. Murphy returned, at your leisure,as I will probably want it to use in the movement looking toward the repeal of this law as affecting institutions similar to the Board.

Regarding the suggestion of Mr. Murphy that it will probably be possible to have the matter taken up and acted upon by the Legislature without expense I suggest that there will probably be some stenographic work necessary and also, I may have to get the help of a lawyer in drawing up an amendment to the present law. This latter will be dispensed with, if possible, but in case it seems to me advisable to have a bill prepared by some competent legal authority I would like to have your authorization of the expense incurred in this and for transcript work. The Legislature meets in two weeks and will be in session two months. I will take the matter up with the Legislature upon my return from this trip.

With this I am enclosing my February voucher.

Will you kindly remit the expense part of this voucher to me at Seattle, c/o "Frye Hotel".

Sincerely yours,

James H. Condit

March 9th, 1921.

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.,
Hotel Frye,
Seattle, Washington.

Dear Mr. Condit:

This will acknowledge your letter of the 23rd ult. just before starting for Seattle, concerning the possibility of securing an amendment to the present law in Alaska by which this Board is required to go through the pro forma action of filing an annual financial statement.

Before making definite arrangements concerning the services of a lawyer to draw up an amendment to the present law will you kindly advise me what such service will cost. It was my hope that you would find some lawyer who was sufficiently interested in the work of the Board to draw up such an amendment without cost, inasmuch as the Board is not seeking a financial advantage.

In the meantime, I will write to our General Counsel asking him, if with the present statute before him, he can prepare such paper as will secure an amendment to the present law exempting this Board from the present requirement. It seems to me that the draft of an amendment by a competent lawyer should be a matter of small moment and should, therefore, require a very small fee, if any charge whatever. I should want, however, to have definite word from you as to the cost should you have this work done in Juneau before presenting the matter to our Finance Committee for approval.

I am glad to learn that you are on your way to Seattle as we shall feel that the next year's supplies for both Barrow and Wales will be properly looked after. You will, of course, learn from Mr. Gould just what has been done in the matter of giving orders preceding your arrival. Negotiations had thus far with Liebes & Company indicate that we will save a considerable sum pro rata for each ton sent North as compared with our last year's unfortunate experience. I return herewith letter of Mr. J.C.Murphy, Attorney General, addressed to you under date of February 21st.

Sincerely yours,

VB MG Assistant Treasurer
Enc.

PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON
JAMES H. CONDIT
STATED CLERK

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS
NO. 156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
JAMES H. CONDIT, D. D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

May 11,1921

Mr. Varian Banks,
156 5th Avenue, New York.

Dear Mr. Banks:

Under date January 22,1921, you wrote me regarding the possibility of repeal of Alaska laws requiring annual filing of corporation sattement as applying to our Board as an eleemosynary institution.

With this in view I appealed to the Attorney General of the Territory for help toward this end. In his annual, or rather biennial, report to the Legislature Mr. Murphy, included the following as part of his recommendation to the Legislature:-

> "Attention is called to Chapter 22, Session Laws of 1919 which requires foreign corporations to file annual reports. This office has had a communication from Rev. James H. Condit, of Juneau, accompanied with a letter from the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, complaining against the provisions of this act applying to corporations of the character of the one represented by the Reverend Condit in Alaska. The Board of Home Missions above named spent last year something over $31,000 in missionary work in the Territory and it would seem that the law should be so amended so that eleemosynary corporations, after once proving their character, should be excused from further reports"

In your letter of March ninth it was suggested that the General Counsel of the Board might prepare an amendment to the Alaska Session Laws providing for the exception mentioned in the report of the Attorney General and I was in hopes that such advice might be available for action here in connection with the present session of the Legislature, now adjourned. In the lack of such advice and not wishing to incur any expense in the way of employing an attorney here I appealed to the Attorney General who prepared an amendment which was submitted to the Senate of our Legislature and passed without dissent in so far as I know. But when the senate bill was presented for the action of the House the latter body refused to concur in the bill and the measure was lost.

The only argument offered was that an advantage might thus occur to the Catholic church, and this certainly is poor argument. The action to my mind was unjustifiable and inexcusable but results in leaving the law just as it was. Two years hence I would advise that the same attempt for repeal be made. In the mean time the annual report will have to be filed.

Cordially yours,

James H. Condit

To be returned to
S. Hall Young, Juneau, Alaska

Wrangell, Alaska, Aug. 24, 1922.

My dear Doctor Young:-

Your good letter just at hand. I wish you were near enough to shake hands over the recent splendid advances in the Alaskan work. You, I know, understand how I feel about the wisdom of putting up our Presbyterian plants and machiner in shape to do things according to the needs of the work. May the work never again go limping as it has for so long! I did not know President Hibben was on the coast till young Mr. Penfield told me last evening as he went south. That is fine!

Not knowing the plans as you outlined them, I immediately forwarded to Banks all receipted bills and Haven's account. I took up all material bills, amounting to $259.94, paying them myself from funds I will need by December first for life insurance. You will recall that Banks said that night to send the account to him by latter part of August. They will be in his hands by the time this reaches you. That will be fine to have the bills settled so soon. It will also give us a little time to get in shape for selling the property here. Your plan has my enthusiastic endorsement. I hope you will get a moose, a caribou, and that bear. I know the animals will all be glad to see you.

I have been putting up to my class the duty of doing something for the younger set of girls and boys. They are responding nicely, and tomorrow evening we meet to organize a young people's society on the order of the Y.P.S.C.E. Now if we only had our parish house, the one I have in mind, we could set actively about the work of making this old town over in a social and religious way. We'll drive straight ahead till we get the house. With such an equipment, which should be procured through the funds from the property, we would have a place where we might get the native

women and young folks linked up again with church activities. It would give the Ladies' Aid a convenient and usable headquarters. Also extra room for Sunday School. We aim to carry our social work for the young people into as many homes as will have us this winter. You can see what a leverage it would be if we had the parish house -- O that we had five thousand dollars in hand right now! I'd have a real parish house yet this fall. We will help support the only gym in town. Do not need another. It is now for use of everybody. We intend to have some socials to which the other Sunday school will be invited. They intend to have us sometimes,so I have heard. Yes,the leaven is working. We must get a real church going here,with a strong spiritual life,and then maybe the day will not be so ~~long~~ far off till local people will see the wisdom of what we are driving at. You know about how much spirituality is found here just now,especially in certain quarters we don't like to mention. Our people seem so pleased with the improved property that they will line up for their best efforts,I am sure. How I wish we had this land converted into something that we so much need. I wish some good man with a vision of service and plenty of dough would take the land and give us the equipment we need. We'll just keep on praying for it till we get it. It seemed to get under the skin of the young women when I asked them if they want the younger set of girls to face the same situation socially that they,the older ones themselves,are facing. I have not mentioned a parish house to them,but you can imagine how such a prospect would stir and encourage them if they could know that it is a not too distant possibility. I even have the ground measured off for it,in that beautiful spot between the manse and the church,well back on the lot. What a fine plant it would give us! Pardon the long presentation of the parish house

question, but this church must work back to strength and usefulness. I was sure there was a work to be done, but the ideas of how to go at it were at first very hazy. Things here had come upon such queer and unchurchly methods, that I was puzzled as well as almost disheartened. To attend gym and get confirmed was the ambition of one group; to attend Sunday school and keep away from church and religious effort of all kinds was the ambition of the other group. The public library effort has helped to awaken a community spirit. Fraternal relations between the church young people, I believe, is destined to spring up soon. However little we two ministers may feel inclined to endorse each other's respective programs, we at least have sense and grace enough to keep from quarreling over such matters, as was the unvarying program in the past. The other man is tired of that sort of thing, and I am not willing to begin it. Very strenuous efforts are being made to gather as many of the stragglers into the other fold as possible this fall, but our work is not losing any ground through that effort. With their gym and parish house combination they have a decided advantage just now. Wait till we get our parish house, and we'll try to see that every youngster in town shall register himself in some one of the Sunday schools. Instead of stealing the sheep that wanted to come nibbling in my pastures, with possibilities of stirring up trouble of course, I sent them to their own place. That hopscotching round doesn't appeal to me, and it did some folks good to discover that I had no interest in the old game of stealing sheep, once so popular here. Welcome enough yet, I'm sorry to observe, but fast growing unpopular and dangerous to the practicers.

Fraternally,

Diven

Pardon the hurried note. I hear there is a boat north tonight.

COPY.

2831. (cont').

be reserved for the use of the Board in its future work at Haines. It is also recommended that the present system of leasing a parcel of land to natives be continued for a further period of three years and that such parcels be confined to the size of 100 X 100 feet, with the proviso that if any lessee shall show his desire to act up to his duties as a member of the community or as a citizen by clearing the land assigned to him and erecting thereon an acceptable house, approved by the General Missionary, such lessee will be given, at the end of three years, title in fee simple to the plot of ground assigned to him. Approved by Dr. Bruce, Dr. Young, Revs. Waggoner and Beck and the Treasurer in Council at Juneau July 31, 1922.

September 11th, 1922.

Re: Care of Alaskan Properties

After full conference with the Home Mission Committee of the Presbytery of Alaska, there being present - Dr. Bruce, Chairman, Revs. Waggoner, Beck, and Dr. Young, I recommend that the following Committees on Property be appointed for the purpose of considering the needs of the various fields as regards the use of the properties in their respective locations in Alaska that the same may be recommended to the Finance Committee for their approval in securing the formal appointment of such Committees by the Board. These Committees are not to have any authority in the way of making sales. They will, however, consider the special needs of each case and desire such recognition as will encourage them to make recommendations that will benefit the work. These Committees are as follows:

HOONAH and KAKE

Rev. George A. Beck, Chairman
Rev. David Waggoner
Rev. S. Hall Young

WRANGELL

Rev. Robert J. Dixon, D.D., Chairman
Judge Thomas
Rev. S. Hall Young

SITKA

Rev. J. H. Condit, D.D., Chairman
Rev. R. A. Buchanan
Rev. S. Hall Young

KETCHIKAN, METLAKATLA and KASAAN

Rev. F. R. Falconer, Chairman
Rev. Edw. Marsden
Rev. S. Hall Young

HAINES

Rev. George C. Denton, Chairman
Rev. George G. Bruce
Rev. S. Hall Young

The Committee at Haines is suggested with Mr. Denton as Chairman until [redacted] the latter shall leave the field which change is in prospect.

September 25th, 1922.

Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Young:

I recommend that you address a letter to every one of the brethren in Alaska who have charge of any property belonging to the Board, in the way of manse, Church building, or land, advising them that it is the Board's understanding that they will not permit the buildings used in their work to deteriorate, but rather to assume the responsibility of advising the General Missionary promptly of any need for repairs or replacements which will enable the Board to more economically keep our properties in good condition.

We have one or two instances were a missionary has assumed that it was none of his business to take up property questions, strange as this may seem, and it is, therefore, desirable to remove any uncertainty as to the obligations and responsibility of the men on the field. I feel that each should be informed of the Board's desire and expectation that the physical or financial interests of the Board shall be looked after with the same forethought as the spiritual side of the work.

Very sincerely yours,

VB MG Treasurer

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS
NO. 156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
REV. S. HALL YOUNG, D. D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska, Oct IO, I922.

Mr. Varian Banks,
I56 Fifth Avenue,
New York.

Dear Mr. Banks*--

This letter answers yoursof Sept. 25th, which concerns tha Wrangell chumch and the affairs of property. First let me disclaim having "authorized" Dr. Diven to go ahead with repairs. Like yourself I did not anticipate his presenting any such account as $500. Before you came I had advised him to have the work done on the church--painting, etc., "if his workmen would wait until property enough could be sold to pay for their work." I simply offered to take the matter up with the Board and endeavor to secure their permission to put the mission grounds on the market and apply the money to their needs. I did not obligate the Board to any grant, neither have I at any time done so without their previous authorization. You yourself, to my surprise and pleasure, made the suggestion to Dr. Diven that the Board advance the money needed in order that purchasers might not tkae advant~ge of the situation and compel Diven to sell at too low prices. I thought your suggestion at the time was unusually kind and generous and appreciated it, as did Diven.

I am sending for your perusal and that of Drs. Marquis and Dixon a letter received from Diven date of August 24th. It is so good that you may perhaps wish to use parts of it in a public way. You will see from it the necessity of constituting the committees we discussed and of giving me the legal power to go ahead and transact the business of the Board in regard to its properties in Alaska. Judge Thomas told me that he had a prospect of placing most of that property at Wrangell and dis-

posing of on favorable terms. Our hands are tied in such matters until I receive the requisitite authorization from you. I expect to be at Wrangell in November and should be able to act in property matters before that time. Please have Given's letter returned to me after you have made use of it.

I have already spoken individually to the various missionaries of Alaska in regard to their care of the Church's property. I shall write to them however as you suggest, and try to stiffen them up in this regard. There are two or three flagrant cases of neglect and destruction of property in the presbytery, altho most of the missionaries are, I think, reasonably careful. The worst case of carelessnes and neglect is at Sitka--our manse there. In case our plans, as discussed there, go through you and I will have to warn Buchanan to take better care of his new house than he has done of his present residence.

But the way, I have not heard what action the Board proposes to take in regard to Sitka. I have received no answer to our application that a native assistant be granted Dr. Conlit until the proposed additional white minister be sent there. Please remember when considering Sitka and these extra salaries that I expressly stated in our councils that if new salaries, new buildings, etc., were granted Sitka this year they must be paid for outside of our present budget. I do not wish to be further blamed for advising or authorizing expenditures which I did not advise or authorize.

I shall send you a copy of the my circular letter when I have written it.

Other matters must await later letters.

With warm regards I am sincerely yours,

S Hall Young

PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS
NO. 156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
REV. S. HALL YOUNG, D. D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

On Alaska Prop

Juneau, Alaska,
October II, 1922.

Copy

Dear Brother:--I have received from Mr. Varian Banks, Treasurer of the Home Mission Board a letter of which the following is an extract:

> "I recommend that you address a letter to every one of the brethren in Alaska who have charge of any property belonging to the Board, in the way of manse, Church building, or land, advising them that it is the Board's understanding that they will not permit the buildings used in their work to deteriorate, but rather to assume the responsibility of advising the General Missionary of any need or repairs or replacements which will enable the Board to more economically keep our property in good condition."

In accordance with the wish of the Board as expressed by Mr. Banks, I am addressing this letter to all our Alaska missionaries and request that you willgive the matter you earnest attention. Some of our missionaries in the past have apparently assumed that it was none of their business to take up property questions. It is the Board's desire and expectation that the physical or financial interests of the Board shall be looked after with the same forethought as the spiritual side of the work. Please report to me the condition of the Board's property that is in your care, and any need of repairs with plans for the same.

Very truly yours,

October 1[illegible]th, 1922.

Re: Care of Alaskan Properties

Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Young:

It was in my mind that I had written you conveying the action of the Board as to the appointment of Committees on Properties in harmony with the suggestions made at the conference held on August 1st in Mr. Waggoner's house. The Council approved for recommendation to the Finance Committee and the latter recommended to the Board the appointment of the Committees as determined at the above conference, viz:

HOONAH and KAKE - Rev. George J. Beck, Chairman
Rev. David Waggoner
Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.

WRANGELL - Rev. Robert J. Diven, D.D., Chairman
Judge Thomas
Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.

SITKA - Rev. J. H. Condit, D.D., Chairman
Rev. R. A. Buchman
Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.

KETCHIKAN, METLAKATLA and KASAAN - Rev. F. R. Falconer, Chairman
Rev. Edward Marsden
Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.

HAINES - Rev. George C. Denton, Chairman
Rev. George C. Bruce
Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.

~~Although~~ the Finance Committee and the Board approved of these Committees upon the distinct understanding that no Committee or any member of any Committee should assume any financial obligation on behalf of the Board until specific authority had been given for entering into such obligation. I explained to the Committee and the Board that the Committees were simply for the purpose of affording a recognized medium of communication as between the Presbytery and the Board on property matters. These Committees are to take active charge of the properties in their care and to foresee actual needs in the way of repairs or replacements and submit same to the Board for consideration. You, of course, understand this, but I want no slip to occur simply for want of having these conditions thoroughly understood. Please so advise each Committee.

We are desirous of cooperating with the Committees in every possible way, and when funds permit, the recommendations of each Committee will,

doubtless, be favorably considered. In times like these, however, we simply must clamp the lid down, as we need every dollar during the remainder of the year that we are likely to receive with which to meet obligations already entered into as represented by this year's budget.

Sincerely yours,

VB WG Treasurer

October 31st, 1922.

Rev. S. Hall Young,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Young:

In response to your second letter of the 10th inst. with more particular reference to the two items of your becoming the resident agent of the Board and the proposition submitted concerning the work at Sitka.

First: as the the agent proposition - I recall conversation had with you concerning this matter at which time I tried to make it clear that the appointment of yourself as agent in place of Dr. Condit carried with it no authority to take action regarding any property matters without first having the approval and consent of the Board. It is not expected, nor does the Board desire, to give anybody in Alaska "the legal power to go ahead and transact the business of the Board in regard to its properties in Alaska." We have had an experience with Dr. Condit sufficiently convincing that it is not good policy to place any such authority in anyone's hands, no matter how wise he may be. The Board itself, as the holder of titles, must ~~execute~~ the deeds ~~when authorized~~ in case of sales and the furnishing of the money in case of purchase, after full information and data has been submitted on which to base a decision.

The Board has already acted upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee that you be appointed as agent of the Board for the purpose of being the resident representative of the Board on whom, should occasion arise, papers may be served under the Territorial laws. For no other purpose is this paper executed and delivered.

I have already written you concerning this explaining that we desire a copy of the former power of attorney given to Dr. Condit in order that we may have proper data on which to base the formation and execution of the document to be issued in your name.

I hope, therefore, that you will keep clearly in mind that your appointment as agent is not for the purpose of giving to the General Missionary legal power to do anything in regard to the sale or acquirement of properties unless the Board shall have first specifically in writing, approved.

I believe that I have already written you concerning the approval of the Board to the appointment of the various property committees which you recommended when I was in Alaska. This matter was brought to the attention of our Finance Committee and by them recommended to the Board for approval upon the understanding that these Committees were simply appointed as recognized mediums through which correspondence was to be conducted regarding the localities named. It is the privilege of these Committees to make such recommendations as they think wise in the interests of the work, but no authority for making changes of any kind, previous to the Board's action thereon, is vested in these Committees. I want to make this very clear, because I fear that from the extract from your letter above quoted you have again assumed what I had thought I had disabused your mind of regarding all property matters.

For instance, in connection with the situation at Wrangeel, We will need to have a definite recommendation regarding the sale of that portion

of the property there which will not be required for the work of the Church. If Judge Thomas, as you state, has prospect of disposing of most of this excess property on favorable terms we will be glad to have his proposition and I will await its submission with no little interest.

Our Finance Committee adopted my recommendation that the sum of $500.29 be reimbursed to Dr. Diven, which amount is to be reimbursed to the Board from the proceeds from sales at Wrangell. I wish it were possible to have some of these sales made in time to wipe out the amount advanced to Dr. Diven, but as I stated at the time I was in Wrangell, I still believe it is the best plan to meet this expense now instead of hurriedly selling, at a price below its fair value, any portion of the Wrangell property. We can now make haste slowly in this regard and let the Board reap the benefit of a little deliberation.

2nd: As regards the proposal submitted for the work at Sitka. The proposition which you submitted and which I was able to commend strongly was considered by the Executive Council, but in view of no way being open to provide for the necessary funds for either an additional native missionary or a building to be erected in the native village, no action could be taken. Both the Finance Committee and the Board is insistent that the present year's budget shall not be increased, for the very simple reason that we are going to have all we can do to receive sufficient funds this year to meet our old debt and to provide for the current years expenditures. I am fearful that while we may raise our debt we will find ourselves short on the current year's account, and therefore, be compelled to report a debt as the result of receipts and expenditures for 1922-23.

I may say that the Executive Council was in favor of making the changes you proposed just as soon as the funds can be supplied. The matter would have met with a prompt negative if it had been referred to the Board for consideration this year.

The building which has been recommended for erection in the native village, so as to provide a proper meeting place for the Sunday School there, will need to be taken up with the Board of Church Erection at the proper time. It would not be wise to secure a grant now with the foreknowledge that the building could not be used because no funds are available for paying the salary of ~~any of~~ the additional missionary. It is desirable, of course, to make this change as soon as possible, but it cannot be arranged for this year. I have so written Mr. Buchanan. ~~I am well fortified by the fact that the Alaskan budget cannot take care of new salaries or new buildings.~~

I think that in case any salvage can be secured in the present year's budget, the Presbytery can wisely allocate such salvage to good uses such as unforeseen emergencies which may arise. There comes to my mind one of these emergencies. How is the Board to provide for the purchase of any household articles needed by Mr. Story at Kake. While the policy of the Board stands as budgeted two years ago, such purchases must, of course, be met from the sum budgeted to the Presbytery. The Board has not a single dollar or any kind of a fund for the purchase of these articles and the policy never contemplated ~~such~~ any other conditions. Dr. Bruce has stated this matter will be taken up by the Home Mission Committee later. It should be borne in mind, however, that in making recommendations you must make it clear where the money is to come from. I wish that we did have a fund at our disposal from which we could meet all kinds of emergencies that could not be anticipated.

REPORT OF THE HOME MISSION COMMITTEE OF THE PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1923.

To the Members of Presbytery greetings:

Your Committee on Home Missions herewith submits its sixth annual report to you for your consideration. Same covering the fascal year ending March 31, 1923.

The past year has been one of unusual interest and service by your committee to this Presbytery of Alaska. Since two of its members reside in Juneau it is possible for the Committee to convene with a quorum present at stated times for conferenee, as well as called meetings that are frequently necessary for the dispatch of important business items due to emergencies. There has been but one meeting during the year when the full membership of the Committee was present, due to the distance between Juneau and Skagway, the home of Rev. E. L. Winterberger, the third member. Mr. Winterbergerm as you are aware, had withdrawn from the work in Alaska after a successful service of nine years, to take up special university study in Eugene, Ore., to which place henas lately removed. The Committee are very sorry to losethis most efficient missionaryand pastor from the Presbytery. They will sorely miss his good counsel on matters of greatest importance, his sympathy and love, but another section of the Kingdom will receive a faithful and consecrated worker,

The year has been one of increasing profit and pleasure because of the kindly way the General Missionary, Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D., has taken the Committee into his confidence. Concerning matters of importance to the Presbytery, to the Synod, to the Board at New York he has ever laid before us his well thought out plans and program for the further reorganization of the work of our immediate fields. His large experience, gained in almost a half century of service, is invaluable to us in the final decision of the many knotty problems that are continually confronting us, so far away from New York, and often, so far away from our own fields. His sympathy and love coupled with his eternal devotion to the cause of Christ in Alaska has not failed to inspire the Committee with confidence and large hope.

The report of the General Missionary has quite covered many of the things that would naturally come in our erport, and, as the conferences have largely been

in common, we will omit some of the references made quite fully in his report.

Taking the fields and the men, KLUKWAN has been under the supervision of Rev. C. G. Denton of Haines, who was able to make one or more trips to that isolated station. Rev. Chas C. Personeus and family have been on the ground since the middle of November. Good reports have come to your Committee from Mr. Personeus and the work. The spiritual side of the people have not been neglected and there have been baptisms and additions to the church. After some five years of service in Alaska Rev. and Mrs. Personeus have been given a vacation by their own Society and are now in the east enjoying a much needed rest. Klukwan has been vacant since the second Sunday in March.

The feild at HAINES is one of the difficult fields. Since there is no organized white church there it is quite impossible to gain the full interest and co-operation of the whites in the work of the Lord. The natives have been responding about as usual and the work among them has shown progress. Much help has been obtained from the personnel of the Haines Home forwhichthe pastor is profoundly grateful

HOONAH has had a successful year with one of our most experienced missionaries at the helm. Goodly numbers have been in attendance on the services of the church, there have been additons, and baptisms. A spirit of evangelism has pervaded the place, and our faithful missionaries are seeing the results of their labors and prayers. Rev. George J. Beck continues as Captain of the Lois stationed at Hoonah and this boat has had perhaps her most successful year since put into commission. Mr. Thronton Penfield, Jr., a student in Princeton, spent last summer on the baot and aided much in the work, besides winning the hearts of us all with his kindly ways and gentlemanly manner. We are pleased to report that he expects to spend another summer in the Presbytery bringing a friend whith him who also reports for duty.

ANGOON is the new field. In February the church was organized there with 57 members, and is doing good work under the supervision of Samuel Johnson, whom we hope to commission as permanent lay-worker. Through the years of faithful devotion to duty and God these people have been prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Johnson for membership into a church, and their abundant success is another proof

for the existence and worth of the Sheldon Jackson Institute. Mrs. Johnson having been the first graduate from the eighth grade and Mr. Johnson also a member of the school about the same time.

SITKA has taken on new life with the change in the Superintendency of the school there under the Woman's Board. Rev. James H. Condit, D.D., has had a very successful year and more. The buildings are full of students , the teaching force strengthened, and the outlook promising. Rev. R. A. Buchanan has been successful in obtaining funds for the erection of a new church for the whites, and the Board, at the suggestion of the Committee and the General Missionary, has divided the work there so that, if our plans are approved by the Board, there will be a minister for the whites and another for the natives. It is hoped that a new church building can be erected as well as a new manse, making three new buildings for Sitka.

Following down the coast we arrive at the important mission field of BAYVIEW. Rev. E. E. Bromley continues an interesting and profitable service among these progressive natives and each year showsthat the grace of God can transform men and women into better parents, better home makers and better business servants. It is hoped that the time will soon come when Bayview will be the headquarters of a missionary who will have charge of the whole West Coast visiting the people, superintending the labors of the lay-workers, and carrying the gospel to all the isolated places of the district the year round.

HYDABURG reports a busy and successful year under the care of our lay-worker, Mr. J. S. Brown. The people have rallied to the support of one of their own race and the Committee verily believes that the use of these men, after they have had such training as they can receive on the field instudy throughout the year, and such spedial advantages as we pray the Board will furnish, that we will be far on the road to give the native the gospel from the mouths and hearts of those who can better understand them, being of their own fleash and blood.

After the removal of Rev. J. Roscoe Fotzgerald who is taking up work in the States, Rev. H. H. Story was stationed at KAKE. Mr. Story comes with unthusiasm and zeal to the needs of the field. After a few months of service he had the

misfortune to severely cut his hand with a circular saw, which accident has not only caused him a great deal of incinvenince in the hospital at Petersburg, but has necessitated his absehce from the field. His patience and fortitude in bearing the burden of this regretted incident has won the hearts of his people as well as their sympathyin his affliction. Through the good providence of Our Heavenly Father he oas been permitted to return home, and assume a part of the work again. The Members of Prwsbyterywelcome with joy this new worker to our ranks.

Through the accumulation of a fund with the Board from Miss Harris of an eastern cbty, the sum of $4300 has been set aside to insure the completion of the boat at Kake which has tried to get into the water for so many years. When this craft is completed it will make the second of three boats to fully equip the missionaries for preaching the gospel to the natives and whites of this archipelago.

JUNEAU and DOUGLAS have received the eareful and prayerful supervision of Rev. David Waggoner with the usual fine result of growth. Besides taking care of these fields Mr. Waggoner has been ready to take the extra service necassary of going to Haines for expert assistance in furance work, for the time needed to acquaint Mr. Banks with the country and the needs of the fields visited, for piloting our Beloved General Missionary in his late itinery to Angoon and return, and for the many conferences held by the Home Mission Committee necessary to advance the interests of Missions in this Presbytery. Mr. Waggoner has been a busysservant of the church.

SKAGWAYnow vacant on account of the departure of Rev. Winterberger is a most important post in need of a missionary. The right man has not yet been found for this field, altho the Committee and the General Missionary have been in correspondence with several for the place. The property of the Methodist church now occupied bu our activitjes there should be the possession of the people. However the negotiations for the same have not been successfully accomplished altho for some years it has been in contemplation. Your chairman served that church for three weeks during the month of July last and found a very happy people and an opportunity for the reception of visitors, quite a large number of tourists during the season of the

year when they are in the north. We hope a man can be secured to take the place of Rev. Winterberger who will be as acceptable to these transients who are frequently members of the Presbyterian church elsewhere, and most interested ones of our denomination.

WRANGELL keeps on growing in influence under the care of Rev. Robert J. Diven, D.D., who has had a wide experience in the Territory and knows how to mix with native and white to their common uplift. The new manse is completed, the church has been overhauled and needed repairs made, while the congregations have been well attended and the spiritual side of the membership deepened.

Another successful year is reported by Rev. Fred R. Falconer of KETCHIKAN. Not only have the people of that section of native blood received his good services, but the city population as well has had his advice and counsel in regards to better government and civic righteousness. His tact and common sense has found him a place with the towns people which few missionaries could have accomplished. It is to be regretted that he has had such a difficult time in getting situated as to house, but no doubt all will end well even in this perplexing problem.

METLAKATLA has finished the new church and Rev. Edward Marsden has proved again that the native, when properly trained and educated, can look after the peoples spiritual affairs as well, or even better, than can the white missionary who serves for awhile in any of our stations. All the functions of a well organized church with its Sunday services and week-day and week-night needs have been furnished to this noted congregation on our south.

The work at KASAAN is happy in the services of our lay-worker, Sam G. Davis. The people there are appreciating the consecrated efforts of their leader and are rallying to the cause of Christ with increasing zeal and devotion. The field is in grave need of a house for the missionary, and the need is so great that it will be one of the first places which your Committee, and the General Missionary as well, will urge the Board to make adequate provision for the dwelling place suitable for a manse.

During the summer President John Grier Hibben and Mrs. Hibben were among the tourists and had abundant opportunity of visiting the fields along the route of the

steamer. So impressed were they with Presbyterian missions and their efficient service that when they returned to the States a movement was at once put on foot whereby we hope to realize a new boat for the northern unit of our work that will be adequte for all requirements, and will be a credit to the Presbyterian church in its sincere desire to carry the gospel fully to all the quarters of this archipelago. There are no definite plans to annouce at present but we are confident that a $20,000 boat will be the property of the Board for service in these waters.

RECOMMENDATION:

First; that we view with great pleasure the year's work reported by Rev. James H. Condit, D.D., Superintendent of the Sheldon Jackson Institute, and that our prayers go forth to him and this splendid school to the end that it may continue to rise to meet the need of Christian education for the youth of our native people. We believe this school has nade more than usual progress in the past year.

Second; that we recognize the self-sacrificing and constant efforts of our General Missionary, Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D., for the fine results he has obtained in the reorganization of the several departments of the work under his care in the Presbytery, that we approve the program he has set before us to further advance the cause of missions within our bounds, and that we commend him to God for his love and devotion to the cause of Christ. We can behold him viewing the setting sun but his energies and zealous services suggest that it is the rising sun. God grant him strength for many years.

Third; that we thank the Board at New York for its careful consideration of the needs of the fields, and ots constant sympathy in the problems we alone must solve, and for its generous treatment of the missionaries and their families as concerns their comfort within the Presbytery, and terms of vacation.

Fourth; the approving of the enlarged budget.

Fifth; the passing of native lay pastors at Hydaburg, Bayview, Kasaan, Klukwan and Angoon with adequate salaries.

Fourth; the arrangement of a system whereby the native churches are canvass for funds and kept up to its pledges.

Fifth; the arrangeing for a great Presbyterian convention among the natives to be convened at least one a year.

Sixth; a definite understanding with the Board concerning buildings, boats, student evangelists, and new ministers needed the coming year, as well as necessary changes in personnel.

Seventh; that an adequate water supply be completed for the use of the missionary at Kake.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Home Missions Committee

Presbytery of Alaska

PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS
NO. 156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
REV. S. HALL YOUNG, D. D., GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

July 11, 1923.

Varian Banks, Treas.,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Re Nickerson:

Dear Mr. Banks;

This letter is in reply to letters of June 12th , 21st, 20th, 19th and 28th. All of which arrived during my absence with the excursion. If I leave untouched any point on which you desire light please let me know.

First:- I had no understanding whatever with Mr. Nickerson in regard to his salary or what part of it should be paid by the Board and what part by the Bureau of Education. I informed him that you would confer with him concerning this and give him light on all financial matters.

Second:- When I handed him the $1500.00 check I told him that it waspresumably an advance both on salary and expenses and that he was to send you a carefully itemized account of expenses. I also remimied him that he could not charge his boarding expenses to you while he was living with his wife in San Francisco.

Third:- In regard to Mr. Nickerson's sala ry, while I had no understanding with him, I think that if he does his full work as a missionary you should pay him his full salary regardless of the fact that his wife gets pay for her work. The past policy of the Board in regard to such cases has always seemed to me unjust.

Fourth:- I am very happy over the fact that you have sent the Nickersons to St. Lawrence and that both that point and Wales are satisfactorily manned. Thus we have two very important mission points supplied and can rally our forces to enter Nunivak and Bristal Bay.

Fifth:- I think that the Bureau of Education should supply the Nickersons with coal, requiring our Board only to heat the Church. Thus our coal bill at both missions will be small. Of course I am in the dark as to all these matters of expense and have to leave you to adjust them. I told Dr. Condit, when I was in Sitka last week, about Nickerson's appointment and he was greatly gratified. It was a consummation for which we have both been striving for a number of years.

I wrote letters to 27 pastors of churches in San Francisco and vicinity asking them to do what they could among their members and their Sunday Schools to raise instruments for Mr. Nickerson's brass band. I asked them to do this outside their regular contributions to the Board. I have not had time to learn the result.

Very faithfully,

S Hall Young

July 25th, 1923.

Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska

Copy to Dr. Bruce

Dear Dr. Young:

Reply to the joint letter of Dr. Bruce and yourself concerningthe Haines property has been purposely postponed because of no apparent urgency in the matter, and the prospective absence of yourself and Dr. Bruce, as well.

As to Denton we will make no further payments to him until he liquidates the $131.50 balance due the Board and also satisfactorily adjusts the matter of the sale of piano. It is characteristic of Denton that he enclosed a bill for his traveling expenses from Haines to Anchorage. Not a word was said by him that the Anchorage Church had promised to meet this expense and it is, therefore, to be assumed that he intentionally sent a bill to the Board in the hope and expectation that check would be sent him. I am returning the bill to Mr. Denton accompanied by a letter as per copy enclosed. I will, therefore, before sending any further sum to Mr. Denton, await report from you that he has satisfactorily adjusted all his financial relations with the Board. I also await reply from Mr. Denton to my inquiry concerning the rentals that he may have collected.

I have consulted with Dr. Marquis and he feels with me that to turn over the Haines property to a Committee or the Presbytery itself, is not in harmony with our ideas of the trust imposed in the Board. We welcome recommendations from the Property Committee; that is what they were appointed for, while it should be borne in mind that they were not appointed by the Board to act with all power in matters concerning the properties in their various districts. We feel that a definite proposition should be submitted, including prospective costs, etc. and then when the plan is approved, authority can be given, within the limitations of the plan, to go ahead and all details can be left to the proper Property Committee. The withdrawal of Mr. Winterberger and Mr. Denton leaves you as the only member of the Committee on Haines Property. I should think, however, that you would be warranted in assuming that Mr. Bromley could act, and if Mr. Story remains at Skagway he could make the third member of the Committee.

The general policy adopted by the Board, by which all funds received from sale of land acquired from the United States Government through Patent, shall be allocated in the same Presbytery in which the property sold was located, will, I think, in spirit, at least, apply to moneys received from rentals of the same properties. I believe that the Board would approve the use of the rentals for betterment at Haines in such way as will meet with approval. Now that Alaska is on the boom we must be careful not to be too optimistic or to jump too far. It must be kept in mind constantly that however great the opportunities are, and however ready the situation opens up for advance work, the income of the Board is the final arbiter in such matters. We have already overappropriated the Alaska budget.

Now, I would suggest that after Bromley has a chance to look over the situation at Haines, inasmuch as nothing can be done this year concerning the farm, that you go over with him thoroughly the physical situation and then make your recommendations regarding the use to which we shall put the farm next year, i.e., either running it ourselves or renting it.

The consolidation of the Boards has not as yet become effective, neither do we know when the Board of National Missions will begin to function until after the meeting to be held the last week in September, so that at the present time we would need to consult with the Woman's Board concerning the desirability of running the farm, whereas if you wait until Fall or until such time as you are informed the Board of National Missions will begin to function, the matter can then be considered by the Departments of the new Board which are involved in the Haines farm matter and a definite decision reached.

I learn from Mr. Stevens, through a letter just received, as well as from enthusiastic letters from Miss Smith that the Alaska excursion was a great success and that the group of 121 who returned were 100% enthusiastic. I hope and believe that that excursion will mean great things for southeastern Alaska.

A telegram received from Mr. Penfield states that Mr. Beck hopes to leave Seattle today on the return trip with the "A.L.Lindsley" completely finished. It is too bad that this unforeseen delay has been necessary yet we know full well that everything possible to be done has been looked after by Mr. Beck and that there has been no waste of time. I hope that we will have no difficulty in securing the amount necessary to meet the total cost of the new boat. Realizing the importance of this welcome addition to the equipment of Alaska Presbytery I shall do everything possible to secure the amount necessary to complete the payment of all bills incurred.

Sincerely yours,

VB MG Treasurer

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE
AND
VACANCY AND SUPPLY

REV. GEORGE G. BRUCE, D. D., CH., JUNEAU, ALASKA
REV. E. L. WINTERBERGER, SKAGWAY, ALASKA
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, JUNEAU, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

REV. DAVID WAGGONER,
JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK AND TREASURER

REV. S. HALL YOUNG, D. D.
GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
September 20, 1923.

Mr.Varian Banks, Treas.,
156 Fifth Ave, New York City.

Dear Brpther:

I am enclosing herewith my voucher for September and report for August. As you know I was in Seattle until the middle of June and on that account did not receive the blanks until my return, hence to this date my reports &c have not been sent in. Upon my return to Juneau I could not get the data from our church treasuser for the months April May, June, and July. However I was able since the first of the monhh to get in touch with the proper persons and the reports have no doubt been received by you ere this.

This has been a hard year with us on account of the sickness of Mrs. Waggoner. My hands have been more than full caring for her doing my work in church and village, looking after the numerous tourists seeking me every week, and in addition having to do all of the house work and laundry. I tried to have help in laundry work and some one to stay with Mrs.Waggoner but had to give that up since it took so much of the salary received from the Board that we could not pay for the groceries to feed home and help. With all of this we have had a very successful year. Never before have so many persons interested in the work of the Board come to Juneau. Some weeks I have only had time to be home for mealtime service. There was the churches to see, the boats, the people, the mines, the glacier, and conferences without number. I am sure that these friends go back to their churches with a large place in their hearts for the work in Alaska, and full of information for the churches to which they belong.

I want to ask for information in regard to our salary for this year. I have been informed by the Board as well as by the pastor, members of the session, and visiting members of the Riverside Church of our election as missionary pastor of their church. I have also been informed that they are giving $1700 for my salary. It is about this that I ask.Is the Board going to send me that amount? To date I have only received at the rate of $1485. It is important to us that we receive the full amount. I have not received one cent on salary from the local church in two years. This year the church has spent in cash and labor $100 to repair the foundation to the Juneau building and they say that they cannot raise any more. My service for the Board in Seattle made it necessary for Mrs.Waggoner to hire a nurse while I was absent. This took all the money I had saved from my service as chaplain in the Legislature. My boy is at Park without means because of our spending the money saved for him for a nurse to take my place while serving the Board in Seattle. You will see that it is important that we have the full amount given by the Riverside church.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE
AND
VACANCY AND SUPPLY

REV. GEORGE G. BRUCE, D. D., CH., JUNEAU, ALASKA
REV. E. L. WINTERBERGER, SKAGWAY, ALASKA
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, JUNEAU, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

REV. DAVID WAGGONER,
JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK AND TREASURER

REV. S. HALL YOUNG, D. D.
GENERAL MISSIONARY
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Mrs. Waggoner is still confined to her bed most of the time. We are hoping that she will recover in due time without further complication. This only time will answer.

To this date I have not received my salary for the month of August. This may be on account of my not sending in the vouchers, and reports. There was so much information &c to trace up and as I mentioned above the persons in charge of these items were not available so the reports were necessarily delayed. Will you kindly look into the matter for me and have a duplicate check sent if it was sent at the regular time and is lost in the mails. I will need the amount of the August salary and the September by the first of October to meet our obligations.

Trusting that the meeting of the new Board this month will see the wisdom of continuing our friend in the office of Treasurer I am

Sincerely yours,

David Waggoner

Aug 17 - $25. Dennis Cabin

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

October 26th, 1925.

Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Young:-

Your longer letter of October 5th, presumably represents, in part at least, the sentiments of both Dr. Bruce and Mr. Waggoner. With this thought in mind let it be understood that the "you" and "your", as used herein, is either personal or collective, as the connection may warrant.

Before making reply, let me state for your general information, and that you may better understand our limitations regarding available funds for the erection of buildings this year, that:

At the beginning of the current fiscal year the Board of Church Erection asked our Board to submit a list of its building needs. The total sum which we named was considerably more than the Board of Church Erection could provide, so they made a bulk appropriation of $75,000. stating that this would be the maximum sum which this Board could expect from them for the current year, and with this amount we had to be satisfied.

Last fall our Executive Council adopted a resolution providing that from the first appropriation made to us by the Board of Church Erection the sum of $30,000. be set aside as the first claim with which to erect imperatively needed buildings in Cuba that were approved in the previous year but for which funds could not be obtained. This left us but $45,000. to distribute in the large area represented by the work of the various Departments of the Board.

At the conference held for the purpose of distributing this remainder

the need for an additional sum for the completion of the "A. L. Lindsley" was submitted and $2,000. was allotted for the new boat which sum is the amount I have previously reported as having been obtained from the Board of Church Erection Fortunately, of the remainder sum, there was something like $1,700. left unallocated at the time we learned of the large and unexpected increase in the cost of the boat, which enabled us to allot an additional, and/the final sum of $1,500. needed to liquidate all obligations on the "Lindsley".

The Board of Church Erection, feeling that they had been sufficiently generous to this Board, stated that all amounts, when granted on applications received by them for either a new building or repairs on property belonging to the Board of Home Missions, must be taken from this bulk appropriation. There was nothing to do but accept this provision and as a result the $75,000. has been fully assigned.

I am giving you the foregoing information that you may realize the situation which confronts the Board regarding its building operations, and to forestall any thought on your part that we can turn to the Board of Church Erection for help ad libitum. You will also bear in mind that the Board of Home Missions has no amount provided in its budget for buildings, our needs for this year being so imperative as to require every available dollar for current work, one of these needs being the guaranty of the full budgeted amount assigned to Alaska.

It is important that you keep the foregoing in mind in connection with any discussions or plans you may have regarding buildings or repairs for the remainder of this year.

Now, as to your letter, you write:

> "Our Executive Council here is much perplexed by the Hoonah Building accounts, the boat accounts, and the seeming conflict between your directions and those of Mr. Keeler. We hope to receive light on all these subjects when your promised letter arrives."

When my expected letter is received, I hope it will furnish the "light" which you look for in view of the unfortunate assumption that Mr. Keeler had authority to represent this Board or had given any "directions", which latter, I am informed by him personally, he carefully avoided. You brethren have not only made the mistake which almost invariably follows official visits to the mission fields, but have assumed the indefensible conclusion that Mr. Keeler's sympathetic consideration of your needs represented the official action of a Board with which he has no connection; as a consequence, obligations have been incurred in the Board's name, without consultation with, or authority from, the Board.

Mr. Keeler was in New York when your letter and one from Mr. Waggoner came so I, fortunately, was able to consult him on Alaskan matters.

1. - KETCHIKAN MANSE SALE and KASAAN MANSE

These two items are so interwoven they must be considered together.

On July 9th last Mr. Keeler, by wire, reported an offer of $2,800. cash for this building if immediately accepted, with the suggestion that I wire answer to Mr. Falconer. I consulted the Church Erection Board and secured their consent to accept the above amount, less commission, in settlement of the mortgage claim of $3,381., which latter amount they originally furnished for the purchase of this building. I then wired Mr. Falconer as follows:

> "Home Board approves sale Ketchikan Manse for twenty-eight hundred. Advise Miss Edmond she is authorized to accept above cash offer. Board Church Erection will accept same in full liquidation of their mortgage claim. Advise by letter name of purchaser and deed will be prepared and forwarded with instructions."

Now note the underscored words. I was careful to include this information in order to forestall the inevitable endeavor, which I knew would be made, to hold that sale money in Alaska for other purposes. I also wrote Mr. Falconer under date of July 31st, that:

> "Inasmuch as the Board of Church Erection holds claim against this Ketchikan Manse property we will need to pay every penny that we receive from the sale to that Board, which they

will accept in liquidation of their claim. There is, therefore no advantage or profit gained by the Board of Home Missions in this sale. I trust that the remittance of the proceeds from this sale can be made by draft on New York," etc.

this second warning, with instructions to send the sale money to New York, were both ignored by Mr. Falconer. Not only this, but he attempted to secure, through Mr. Keeler's assent, $300. more or less, with which to reimburse him for what he claimed was due him for manse rent, which request Mr. Keeler properly refused to consider.

Like a bolt from a clear sky comes the following letter from Mr. Falconer:

"I am enclosing herewith three bills for material to be used in the construction of the Kasaan Manse. There will be more material needed in completing the house but we hope to keep the total cost within the $800. granted for this work."
(The three bills total $616.02)

No grant has been made by this Board; no authority has been given for the erection of this manse, nor has the need therefor ever been considered either by the Board, the Executive Council or any officer of the Board. I have reason to believe that Mr. Falconer has not proceeded upon his own initiative in this Kasaan matter and therefore, he is not wholly responsible for this additional grave mistake.

I have asked Mr. Keeler to give me a statement of his connection with this item and in response he furnished me with the enclosed letter which speaks for itself.

There is but one thing left for us to do: to request the Board of Church Erection to reconsider its previous action granting money for repairs to the three following buildings; namely,

Haines Church and Manse,	$250.
Kake Native Church, ...	300.
Sitka Native Church, ..	250.
	$800.

and to substitute therefor the sum of $800. for the Kasaan Manse in the hope and

expectation that this transfer will relieve an otherwise embarrassing situation. I hope that the repairs to the three buildings named have not been started and that no bills have been incurred as yet, otherwise the situation is a serious one.

The Board of Church Erection holds its next meeting on November 15th; I will be unable, before that date, to secure their approval to this proposed transfer, and must, therefore, await their action and the receipt of the changed grant before any remittance can be made on account of the Kasaan Manse.

I am sending to Mr. Falconer a copy of the foregoing portion of this letter in connection with heading under Item 1.

Apparently you still hold to the contention, as expressed to Mr. Keeler that "the Ketchikan sale money belongs to Alaska." This is contrary to specific action taken by the Board sometime ago and which was made known to you; namely,

> "That proceeds derived from the sale of property in Alaska acquired from the U. S. Government, be used for our work among the Natives in Alaska."

but, and here is the important exception:

> "Where property, acquired by the Board through purchase with its own funds, or through grant from the Board of Church Erection, is sold, in every such case, disposition of the proceeds shall be made on due action of the Executive Council and the Finance Committee, and the question of sending the money to the Treasurer or retaining it in Alaska, is to be decided by the Executive Council on the merits of each case."

The foregoing represents the action of our Executive Council under date of December 12th, 1922, and in effect transmitted to you.

Mr. Keeler informs me that had he known of the above action he would have declined to recommend any reallocation of the proceeds from the Ketchikan Manse sale for any purpose whatever. It is unfortunate that, knowing of this action, you omitted to remind him of it.

2. -- HOONAH MANSE

The embarrassing situation which has arisen in this building matter is largely, if not mainly, attributable to Mr. Waggoner's failure to keep in touch with

us and to seek instructions, in view of his foreknowledge that a considerable increase would be needed to complete this building. Instead, he went ahead, incurred obligations in excess of the amount w ich was named in the original estimate, after the conference had with Mr. Keeler (see Mr. Keeler's letter enclosed on this matter, which speaks for itself) and then, without previous warning, we received your startling telegram of October 4th, announcing that $3,000 was required immediately to stop threatened liens. Mr. Waggoner sums up, in his explanatory report sent in response to my last wire, that "if there is any fault, it is a lack of appropriation in the beginning, to meet business and building conditions."

You will all agree, I am sure, that to report the closing of the stable door after the horse has been stolen, is not an acceptable explanation. Mr. Waggoner knew full well the "business and building conditions", and should, therefore, through such knowledge, have protected the Board from the present situation which requires a considerably larger sum than we have available for this building.

Another thing: I cannot understand the following extract taken from Mr. Waggoner's letter of October 5th:

> "The question asked in your wire inquires who incurred the additional cost. We do not know."

Is not this rather a strange statement, in view of the fact that Mr. Keeler tells me, in effect, that at a conference had with you brethren, a specific sum was named as the maximum cost. If Mr. Waggon r was not at that conference, certainly he should have been informed. If he was present, then what does the foregoing statement mean.

The reference in my letter to the building "as originally projected" was made upon information given me by Mr. Keeler, that at one time an added story was proposed for the purpose of providing for prospective nurses whom you expected at sometime in the future to locate at Hoonah. If an addition was made to the original plan of the building, then it will explain the increased cost. As to this, we hope and expect that Mr. Waggoner will make definite report.

Referring to your telegram, in which it was stated that the Board's credit was imperilled; to our mind the onus of delayed payments must fall upon whoever ignored direct responsibility to the Board, incurred these increased obligations, and then broke silence only when a disturbing crisis arose. If it is true that the Board alone will have to bear criticism and whatever may result from delayed payments, then, as such a situation is due to methods which we firmly disapprove and cannot countenance, we will have to have recourse to our only alternative: to notify all business concerns in Alaska that no amount is to be charged to this Board except upon written authority, signed by an officer of the Board. The indefensible position which is apparently held, that obligations can be incurred without authority, in the name of the Board, and the Board then compelled to bear the onus of such procedure is untenable.

That the present situation regarding this building may be relieved to as great an extent as possible, I now authorize draft to be made on the Board for $600. covering the unallocated balance of the sale money granted October 18th, 1923 by the Church Erection Board, this amount being in addition to the draft of $300. previously authorized, which latter draft, I may say in passing, has not been presented to us at date of this writing.

3. BOAT - "A.L.LINDSLEY"

You write:

> "I am certain that if Mr. Waggoner had had a free hand in the matter of the "A.L.LINDSLEY" we would have had a better and a faster boat at an expense of $2,000 less than it has now cost."

The implication, as well as its inspiration is quite clear. Let us consider this remarkable criticism in the order of its presentment, as above underscored:

1st. If Mr. Waggoner had had a "free hand"
2nd. He would have built a "better" boat
3rd. He would have built a "faster" boat

First - In Mr. Waggoner's letter to me of March 13th, 1923, on page third, last paragraph, under "Recommendation fourth", he wrote:

> "We are of the opinion that the boat ought to be finished in Seattle where all equipment and materials can be purchased. I have investigated and find that all materials will have to be ordered from Seattle. With the courtesy of the Cunninghams providing special terms and rates, there will be much saving on all purchases in Seattle over Juneau."

Under date of March 30th I approved this plan and then added:

> "although I could wish that the installation could be made in Juneau inasmuch as the engine could be sent up there at less cost than the towing of the hull to Seattle and then running the boat back under its own power."

Hardly before the completion of the "Lindsley" was begun, Mr. Waggoner was recalled to Juneau, and as I understand it, from the date he left Seattle, his connection with the "Lindsley" ceased, Mr. Beck taking charge until completion.

In what way, then, was Mr. Waggoner denied a free hand?

Second: The "A. L. Lindsley" was partially built several years ago at Kake. Whether Mr. Waggoner had any connection with the building of the hull, I do not know. If he had, he certainly had a free hand than, as no restrictions were placed upon him, so far as this office is concerned, as we did not know who was building it.

How, then, was Mr. Waggoner prevented from producing a "better" boat?

Third: In my letter to Mr. Waggoner dated March 30th, 1923, I confirmed a previous intimation given him that "the desired oil engine could not be delivered for at least six months." It was, therefore, necessary to substitute some other engine if, as you brethren urged, the "Lindsley" was to be completed and put into commission this year. The only independent action which this office took in connection with the boat, and without consultation with you, was the purchase of the engine; I need not repeat what was fully explained to Mr. Waggoner in my letter

of above mentioned date. Suffice to say that we accepted the recommendation of Mr. Cunningham, one of the best experts on engines in Seattle, and immediately ordered the engine then available, otherwise we were faced with the probability of the hull arriving in Seattle with nothing to put in it.

In what way could a "faster" boat be produced?

Now, Dr. Young, if in submitting your criticism, you had written: "I am certain that if Mr. Waggoner had had the boat built in Juneau he could have completed it at an expense of $2,000. less than it has now cost", you would have been far closer to the truth.

A disinterested man in Juneau, who had ample knowledge of local facilities, stated to Mr. Keeler that the boat could have been finished in Juneau at a considerable saving over the more expensive plan of taking it to Seattle.

Mr. Waggoner explained why there was such a difference between the original estimate for the completion of the "Lindsley" and the actual cost, by stating that he did not know labor conditions, and that prices were so high, when he made his estimate. A confession of insufficient investigation on his part; before submitting an estimate on so important a matter he should have, by thorough and careful inquiry, ascertained the facts and conditions so that the Board could have known, what it ascertained too late, that the boat could not be finished anywhere within the amount that was then available.

I have just computed the actual cost of the boat, eliminating such items as the cost of transfer of Mr. Waggoner and Mr. Beck to Seattle and return; for the Portland dinner, and for sundry other items that were directly connected with the boat, but not a part of its actual construction, and find that such total cost is $8,740.00 which is $4,090.00 more than the original estimate

4. <u>The Proposed Third and Larger Boat</u>

Referring to this boat you write:

"There is one thing, however, that we will insist upon and that is that with the help of competent and experienced boatmen on this Coast we, at this end, must have the management and expenditure of these funds."

If there was no other reason than the two foregoing instances of mismanagement, the Board would answer this remarkable demand by a prompt negative. There is, however, a more important reason why the Board will reserve to itself the right to "insist" where such a procedure is necessary, namely; all funds contributed to the Board for carrying on the work committed to its care are, in every sense of the word, trust funds. The donors expect that the Board will ~~xx~~ carefully, conscientiously, and economically administer these funds in the best interests of the work. The responsibility thus placed upon the Board cannot be allocated to others who are not responsible directly to the Church. The remarkable demand which you now make is impossible of consideration.

If, and when, a third boat can be seriously considered, we will ascertain through a proffered contract from a reliable firm of boat buildgrs, its total cost, fully equipped, ready to be put into commission. We will also ascertain the personel required to run such a boat and the cost of maintenance, which latter will amount to a considerable sum, and if the proposed budget for Southeastern Alaska, at such time as the acquisition of the third boat may be tentatively decided upon, will permit of this increase, then, and then only will the order be given for the building of the boat, and this order will go direct from the office of the Board.

The Board has felt for some time that a larger amount is being spent in Alaska than in other fields, proportionately, as may be evidenced by the following comparison:

In the State of Utah, where the most vicious of heathen religions is practiced, with a population of 450,000., the Board expended, during the last fiscal year, but $13,369.21; whereas in Southeastern Alaska alone, with

its limited population (I leave the actual figure to you) the Board spent a total of $23,092.84.

It is quite possible that not only the amount to be assigned to Alaska next year will not be increased, but should we close the current fiscal year with an added deficit to that of last year, the sum budgeted to Alaska for 1924-25 may be reduced.

This latter paragraph will definitely answer the question which you submitted in your letter of the 5th instant, viz.:

> "But you certainly do not mean what your letter seems to imply, that the Board does not expect to make any progress in the coming year."

From the foregoing you will see that this is exactly what I feared.

Now as to the limitations under which the work in Southeastern Alaska has to be carried this year, and with special reference to the necessary delay in increasing the salary of the brethren to a larger amount, may I say , if instead of using the budget to extend the work and thereby make it necessary to keep the salaries down to a sum below the required amount, would it not be a better policy to first allot from the budget an amount sufficient to make all salaries of the white men what they should be, and then do the best you can with the balance of the budget? This would, of course, possibly mean the closing of some work, or the abandonment of fondly hoped for plans. To my mind, the men who have served Alaska long and faithfully should not be called upon to deny themselves in the way they have been doing, in order to permit of an additional mission station being supplied.

I may be charged with being cold-hearted in suggesting such a remedy as this, but I do not hesitate to make the suggestion as I am in thorough sympathy with men like Mr. Beck and Mr. Waggoner, who have labored long & faithfully; the time has come, in the case of these two brethren at least, when a salary not only sufficient to support them in comfort but with some margin for savings for future

needs, should be seriously considered, even though such a drastic plan as above suggested must be followed.

In view of the very probable inability of the Board to provide an amount for work in Southeastern Alaska beyond that which can be met under the budget for the present year, the question as to the education of a Native Ministry; the establishment and maintenance of new missions among the Eskimos cannot, with any encouragement, be considered now.

As to your desire to visit the States for the purpose of presenting the needs of Alaska, I have written Dr. Bruce direct in reply to his letter reporting the resolution adopted by the Home Mission Committee concerning this proposed visit advising him that, after conference here, we deem it inadvisable for you to come out previous to your leaving for the General Assembly as an elected Commissioner.

All matters referred to in your letter, not hereinbefore answered, can be given sufficient effective attention through correspondence, in view of the fact that the Board, so far as we now see, will be unable to consider these additional items because they involve increased expenditures.

I have sufficient faith in the good sense of your brethren to feel that this letter will be received in the same kindly spirit which has actuated it. I have gone into such detail because I strongly desire that there should be, not only perfect understanding, but that misunderstandings might be cleared away. I trust that this lengthy and tedious letter will mean to you all that I have, as always, a deep and permanent interest in the welfare of the work in Alaska.

In closing, may I say that this letter has been dictated after conference with Dr. Marquis, has been read by him and is forwarded with his full approval.

Very sincerely yours,

Treasurer

October 29th, 1923.

Rev. George G. Bruce, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Dr. Bruce:

Your letter of the 20th inst. came to hand after the enclosed letters had been prepared, ready for mailing.

I heartily agree with you that in all our correspondence regarding the erection of buildings, and in fact, in connection with all financial affairs referring to work in Alaska Presbytery, it should be conducted with one person and one person only should be made responsible. I am inclined to think you are that man, as while you are well acquainted with the work in Alaska, you, doubtless, recognize you are not too sure of your knowledge of business and other conditions in Alaska to prevent your taking care to look into each item thoroughly from the business point of view before making specific recommendation to the Board, and as a result you are not likely to make obligations on behalf of the Board without knowing just where you are going to land before you make the jump.

I recognize the fact that circumstances arise at times which cannot always be foreseen, yet it shows a weakness on the part of any organization or individual who fails to profit by experience. We need closer supervision and more businesslike cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

VB MG Treasurer

October 31st, 1923.

Rev. George G. Bruce, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Bruce:

I enclose on another sheet, adopting the deadly parallel idea, quotations from Dr. Young's own letter of October 5th last, which you will note are not consistent. Dr. Young actually intends to be loyal to the Board; we appreciate that fully, but from long experience, we know full well that Dr. Young is so forgetful that he at times does the most inconsistent and unexpected things.

In the present instance Dr. Young thinks that he is carrying out the statement made in his letter as quoted on the left, notwithstanding that he reserves in the second paragraph, quoted on the right, the privilege of presenting the new boat needs, and to carry out the actual recommendation of your Committee that he raise special amounts "to assist for the fiscal year the already strained budget of the Presbytery." Then too, you will realize Dr. Young's inconsistency as stated in the left-hand quotation that he does not desire the Board to assume "new and onerous burdens" when he should know he entirely overlooks the fact that the installation of a third boat in the Alaskan service will require a considerable addition next year to the amount budgeted this year.

I also call attention to the wonderful optimism and imagination of Dr. Young as may be evidenced by the second deadlyparallel concerning his reference to a proposed visit to Wisconsin and the actual facts as stated to us by the extract taken from letter received from Dr. George E. Hunt of Madison, Wisconsin. It will be seen that the "campaign" in Wisconsin is not understood by the men in Wisconsin as an opportunity for raising funds. Then, too, for your information, as well as for Dr. Young's, I may say that the Synod of Wisconsin is a Self-supporting Synod and administers the Home Mission work within its bounds independent of and separate from this Board. Further than this, up to a year ago the Synod of Wisconsin had not, for many years recognized or taken part in the nationwide Home Mission work as evidenced by the fact that as a Synod they contributed not one penny towards the work of this Board.

From my experience with these Self-supporting Synods I am confident that every dollar that may be raised in that State for any purpose outside of Wisconsin's needs is apt to be claimed by that Synod. In connection with more than one Synod this has been the result of special appeals made by representatives of the Board. I am also satisfied that this would be the result in Wisconsin inasmuch as beginning with April 1st, 1923 that Synod has, for the first time, taken its first formal step recognizing the nationwide work by appropriating 3% of their total income for Home Mission work, for the nationwide work. This means that the Synod of Wisconsin will contribute to the Board of Home Missions about $1,000. during the current fiscal year.

Now, these are facts which are unknown to either Dr. Young or your Committee and there are other reasons why the proposed visit of Dr. Young to the States is not approved. Had you known of all the conditions which the Board must recognize I am very sure that the Home Mission Committee of Alaska Presbytery would never have passed the resolution it did.

Representatives of the other Departments of the Board have, from time to time, asked for the same privilege which has been sought for Dr. Young, and likewise, in those cases consent has been denieddto these representatives to present appeals for their own special work. Every one of the men whom the Division of Promotion may select to conduct the impending campaign is specifically instructed to get behind the Board and push the work as a whole, and not to emphasize the needs of any one Department which have not been cared for within the current year's budget. We have a big task before us in raising the funds with which to meet our current needs alone. When an appeal is made for a special piece of work it is desired to inaugurate, which is not already provided for in the budget, the funds contributed for such additional needs represent, to a very large extent, a diversion of funds which would eventually find their way into the general treasury of the Board to supply the Board with funds to meet its current abligations. I want you to understand this situation insofar as the above can convey to you part of the situation, so that you brethren may realize the need for every one to get behind the Board as a whole and not lay special emphasis upon any one Department.

In further connection with Dr. Young's desire to visit the States, I would say that we, every few days, are receiving evidence of the fact that he has planned his trip and has corresponded with different people about it long before submitting his request to the Board that he be authorized to come out during January and February. As further evidence of Dr. Young's inconsistency, I refer you to the quotation enclosed concerning his desire to visit Dr. Hibben for the purpose of carrying out the original plan and then contrast this with a statement that he has sent to Rev. Paul G. Stevens of Los Angeles that he, (Dr. Young) is planning to make an effort to raise money for a third boat and asks his (Stevens) cooperation while on the Coast.

Now, I want to say one thing and it must be considered as kindly said, but as a finality: even though the third boat should, by some unknown means, without the Board's knowledge, be built and made ready for work there is not one chance in twenty that the Board will be able to provide the necessary funds with which to run it. Then too, I do not think that you brethren are prepared to efficiently and effectively use a third boat. The men who are to man it are not in sight, and it will not be an easy matter to secure the special kind of talent necessary to properly care for such a big boat. All these things must be taken into careful consideration, and I, therefore, trust that you will do what may be necessary to disabuse Dr. Young's mind that a third boat is feasible for the next year or two, and also, that he should give up the idea of coming out previous to the time he starts East for the General Assembly in the event that he is elected a Commissioner. I want to be very sure that you appreciate the need for the latter decision inasmuch as there is something more involved in it than now appears. I cannot say anything more definite just now but for Dr. Young's sake, if for no other reason, dissuade him from the thought of leaving Alaska before next Spring.

Sincerely yours,

VB MG (enc) Treasurer

November 7th, 1925.

Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Dr. Young:

I have a letter from Mr. Denton of Anchorage received after I had dispatched t him check for his salary up to November 30th on the basis of $800. per annum.

I am sorry to see that you have changed the stand which you had taken at the time, or soon after, Mr. Denton left Haines. You referred to the fact that he had sold a piano belonging to the Board and that you would insist that the Anchorage Church would pay Mr. Denton's traveling expenses, and now it would seem that you have forgotten entirely about the piano and also had decided that the Anchorage Church would pay such travel expenses without consultation with them.

You leave this office in rather an embarrassing position inasmuch as our correspondence in this matter was based upon your own recommendations, and now you place the onus of whatever difficulty may arise with us here. I must insist that you first settle this piano business satisfactorily in accordance with your original recommendation which we felt was fair and just.

Secondly: Simply because the Anchorage Church people have never paid the travel expense of a man is no reason why they should not begin now.

Third: Owing to the fact that there is no salvage in the Yukon Presbytery budget with which to meet this travel expense in some way other than recourse to the Board.

A letter from Mr. Winfield Ervin, Treasurer of the Church, clearly indicated that the Anchorage people could pay a larger portion of salary than they have heretofore been paying. Mr. Marple tells me that Ervin is a different type of man from Mr. Mason, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, the latter being a man without a particle of vision and with a tendency to be narrow minded. From the correspondence had with Mr. Mason I am convinced that he gives very little consideration to the Board and looks wholly at the Anchorage Church side, has very little optimism and fails to appreciate the generous support which the Board has accorded that Church year by year. If Mr. Mason showed you letters that he had written to me or sent you copies thereof, I cannot think but what you will have reached the same conclusion. The Anchorage Church should be made to clearly understand that because it is close to its own problems and the need for funds for this or that purpose, it should not forget that our financial condition should receive equal consideration. I have seldom heard of a Church that could not do more than it had done if it tried to, and so long as the Anchorage Church feels it can get $1,400. per annum from the Board, it will not raise more than $800. To my mind, if it realizes that this Board will be unable

to increase its payment to Mr. Denton to a higher rate than $600. per annum, that Church will not permit Mr. Denton to suffer and will raise the difference. Mr. Mason may reply to this to the effect that they have been called upon to spend money for replacements and needed improvements on the inside and the outside of the manse as a reason why they will not be able to increase the amount for pastor's salary. Well, in response to that, I would say that the Board is in like position. Last year we spent $138,000 more than we received and we must, therefore, look to the Churches receiving aid from the Board to do their very best to help relieve this situation by reducing the amount expended from the Board. Instead of the Anchorage Church looking towards their own pocketbooks solely and exclusively, let their attention and thought be applied somewhat to the Board's condition.

I had previously written Mr. Denton, enclosing his salary up to November 30th, that he is to retain amounts handed to him which I assume are applicable towards his salary, instead of forwarding amounts here. I can readily understand why both Denton and the Church prefer to have salary remitted at $1,400. per annum, they in turn to send their contributions here, because on the one hand Denton is assured of his $1,400. whether the Church carries out this implied obligation to do the best it can, or not; in other words, to use a current slang phrase, it is a good deal easier to "let George do it." Now fromwhat I know of the Board's reaction on such items and the feeling of our Executive Council, we are inclined to put the matter up thethe Churches generally in a stronger manner than heretofore. We must secure relief by some progress in the way of reduced demands upon the Board's Treasury in order that new and urgent needs may be cared for.

Sincerely yours,

VB MG Treasurer

November 21st, 1923.

Rev. George G. Bruce, D.D.,
Juneau, Alaska

Filed in Dr Bruce's folder-file room

Dear Dr. Bruce:

Replying to your letter of the 24th ult:

1st. As to the student, Mr. Klein: no part of his expense outside of maintenance while on the boat will be charged to the Presbytery of Alaska. I do not see how you can very well separate the cost of his food from that of the other young men on the boat, nor do I feel that this is desired. Any amount that may be paid to Mr. Klein, either towards his travel to or from Alaska, or for any other purpose, will be paid from the summer student budget which, fortunately, we find has a sufficient salvage to take care of this.

2nd. I have already written regarding the cost of the "A.L. Lindsley" and also as to the amount we have paid out on account of its maintenance. The payments that have been made on these two accounts will, of course, have to be considered as final. As there is not a dollar available, except the pledge of the First Church of Portland, any cost connected with the boat either for additional equipment or maintenance will have to be charged against the Alaskan budget, and on the other hand the Alaskan budget will be credited with such amount as we receive from the Portland First Church. Up to date no money has been sent us from that Church towards the "Lindsley" maintenance, although I have written to them. If that Church should send me the amount we have actually expended for maintenance, there will be nothing available to meet either contingent needs or sums already paid that are not strictly maintenance charges. Please do not make the mistake of assuming that you are warranted in spending $750. in addition to the budget for any and all purposes, simply on the basis of this pledge; this pledge must be used for the boat exclusively unless that Church gives us more than is required for the original purpose and consents to any excess being applied as may seem best.

3rd. With reference to the last paragraph in your letter reporting that some of your friends are trying to get you to come to the States, and what do I think of it. Well, my first reaction was that your friends would not be too zealous and would be unable to submit to you a sufficiently attractive proposition to bring you out of Alaska, inasmuch as you would seem to be needed in the work there during the period between the merging of the Boards and the adoption of a thorough and substantial plan for the conducting of the work in Southeastern Alaska. From a selfish point of view, I hope that the way will not be opened for you to resign from your present pastorate. As Pastor of the only self-supporting Church in Alaska, and Chairman of the Home Mission Committee you are in a position to do good and effective work in the best

interests of the missions there. I appreciate the fact that there are many other things which enter largely into one's consideration of such a change as you may have in mind. I was somewhat prepared for your inquiry because of a remark which Mr. Keeler made in the course of conversation upon his first visit to New York after his return from Alaska. Because of your helpful experience as regards Presbyterianism in Alaska, I hope the question you submitted does not mean you are thinking of making a change in the immediate future. I am fully impressed with the fact that we need and must have as much wisdom in the administration of Alaskan work as it is possible to have.

Very sincerely yours,

VB MG Treasurer

Hoonah, Alaska.
December 15th. 1923.

Mr. Varian Banks. Treasurer,
Board of Home Missions,
156 Fifth Ave. New York City.

My Dear Mr. Banks:-

Your kind letter of December 3rd. just received, we are living in the new house and enjoying it greatly, but it is not finished and will not be until the christmas rush is over.

Our people are more loyal than ever this winter and are doing their best to make us feel that our work is worth while. We just had the church stove repaired and new pipe put in, it cost us thirteen dollars and twenty five cents, I paid the bill and the elders said a collection should be taken up to reimburse me. Sunday the people were notified that the offering would be received at the wednesday evening service. You know how often people are very busy when collections are to be taken up and stay away, but one hundred came to the meeting and handed in seventeen dollars and seventy five cents. This afternoon two of our women came in and handed me a receipted bill for one dollar to put on the record, they had bought glass and had two of the church windows repaired without bothering me with the work. Many of them are coming in with their envelopes this who have put their little offerings in each Sunday while I was in Seattle and they were in camp. Ofcorse they are not all so faithful, and we come far short of the two hundred each year but if we dont get the cash we do get the blessing some other way. Several days ago one of the native men cut my hair I paid him the regular price, yesterday he came in and said " My wife pretty near jumped on me, she say why why did you take that money from Mr. Beck, dont you know he is helping you all the time, It is alright to charge the other white men but not him".

So far this winter the Salvation Army are helping and not hindering our work in Hoonah, I hear that a big delegation from different villages are coming in a few days and then I do not know what will happen but it is not troubling me atall. The local leader of the Army came to the house and asked if I would not go down to the dock and invite the visiting army up to hold their first meeting in the church when they arrived, I promised to do so.

The only excuse I can offer for not sending the vouchers is that we have been so overburdened with work that I could not find time to make out those awful reports every month. You can form no idea Mr. Banks of the work we have to do, the many letters to write our own, and for the people, the calls made, advice given and manual labor performed, besides our regular services and their preparation. To keep track of it all and to write it out every month is too much to ask of any missionary. I will do my best to get them in soon.

We are rejoicing in our work and people and the many blessings enjoyed every day and will close this letter by wishing all of you at the Board rooms the very best year you have ever known.

Most cordially yours

Geo. J. Beck.

Just one matter I wish to touch upon especially. That is my proposed trip to Southern California and the East about January first. From your last letter I infer you look upon this doubtfully, as if I intended to raise money for a lot of specials which would ultimately impose upon the Board new and onerous burdens. Such is very far from being my plan or intention. I propose to work under the direction of the Board and for its interests. I understand you are to make a great campaign for general funds to meet the enlarged plans of the Consolidation.

But several things which have/already been started and have been halted for a time must be pushed forward to success if our our work is to progress at all. First, the larger boat. Thornton Penfield says that Dr. Hibben has by no means given up his plan and the Dr. himself has written Mr. Waggoner to the same effect. When I go East I propose to go to him first of all, and then to Cleveland Dodge and such other parties as may be likely to help in this most important enterprise. I am confident I can put it through.

For instance, a letter from the head of the Agricultural Department of University of Wisconsin who was here this summer, and also a letter from Dr. Hunt urge me to go to Madison for a week's campaign in the City and University.

Extract from letter from Dr. Geo. G. Hunt, Christ Presbyterian Church of Madison -

"Dean Russell of the University, one of my members met Dr. Young in Alaska this summer and found out his intention to come to the States this Winter, and both Dean Russell and Dean S. H. Goodnight of the University are anxious to have Dr. Young address a University convocation. He is also wanted to address the Kiwanis Club here and I want him for both morning and evening services of a Sunday."

1. - KETCHIKAN MANSE SALE AND KASAAN MANSE

I can say without hesitation that we heard first from Mr. Keeler that the Ketchikan manse had been sold by him for $2800.00, and clearly understood from him that all of this money was under control of the Board he represented. And that he was at liberty to allocate it to the Church properties in Alaska that needed repair or construction. This formed the basis of all our discussions concerning the needs of the missions. Notably at our last meeting in Juneau we made the final allocation of the $2800.00, trying to see how far it would go. The repairs on the Ketchikan Church and the building of the Kasaan manse were among the first items fixed, and I gave Mr. Keeler the plat of the Kasaan house in the expectation that he would be able to visit Kasaan and give final directions concerning the building. When we parted at Ketchikan Mr. Keeler still expected to go to Ketchikan and to take with him Mr. Davis's plans for the house and make final arrangements with him. On my return from Seattle to Ketchikan Mr. Falconer informed me that Mr. Keeler had been unable to get to Kasaan, but had told him to go ahead with the erection of the manse, and he was then ordering the lumber for the new house. I have no doubt whatever that Mr. Falconer clearly understood that he had authority in that matter from Mr. Keeler, and that the money would speedily be placed in his hands to finish the manse.

In the light of this, the paragraph in your letter to Mr. Falconer which he quotes in a recent letter to me, that Mr. Falconer's proceeding to the erection of the Kasaan manse was unauthorized and resulted in "The loss of confidence in the business judgement and financial management as shown in Alaska affairs," was both unfair and unkind. Mr. Falconer is most consecientious and careful in all his business transactions. He and I both clearly understood that Mr. Keeler said to go ahead.

Fortunately we are able to postpone the repairing of the Kake native church .....$300., and Sitka native church .....$250. until spring. I have a bill, however, from C. A. Lindholm at Haines for work and material on the parsonage of $59.75. I was present when Mr. Keeler directed this work to be done. Taking this amount from the $250.00 allowed for Haines will leave a balance of $190.25. Adding this remainder to the amounts allowed for Kake and Sitka we have $740.25, which will more than meet the bills presented for the Kasaan manse. Let it be clearly understood that the onus of this mistake does not rest rightfully upon the shoulders of Mr. Falconer or myself. I expect to go to Haines in a couple of days, and shall see that no other work is done upon the church or manse there until we have the funds in sight for such repairs.

Your quotation from the action of the Executive Council under date of Dec. 12th, 1922, concerning the sale of Alaska property and the disposition of the proceeds, we understood to have been modified by the action taken last spring to the effect that the local Committees in charge of the different missions were to handle such funds in making repairs and improvements needed. And we also understood that Mr. Keeler had authority to allocate such moneys on behalf of the Board of Church Erection.

2.- HOONAH MANSE

Mr. Waggoner has shown me the letters received from you and his reply concerning this matter, and I consider that he has answered your criticisms very fully. The whole matter of the purchase of supplies for that manse, the employment of workmen, the transportation of material, etc., was taken completely out of the hands of Mr. Waggoner and of the rest of us. Mr. Keeler purchased the lumber for the house at Seattle, attended to its transportation, hired a vassel at Juneau to take it to Hoonah, employed a builder and went over twice to Hoonah to see about the construction of the manse. The fact that the lumber failed to be a knock-down-house, as was ordered, and that essential portions of the lumber were missing when it arrived at Hoonah, was in no degree chargable to any mistake on the part of Mr. Waggoner. Our committee at Juneau aided Mr. Keeler in every way we could to get builders and purchase material, but he took the initative. Even Mr. Beck had nothing to say. We made suggestions, of course, but Mr. Keeler gave the orders. While we felt that the Hoonah manse ought ot have been large enough to accomodate an ordinary family, and expressed ourselves to that effect, we did not presume to dictate or to interfere with Mr. Keeler's directions. In any of the conferences at which I was present there was no mention made of providing for "prospective nurses". The only mention of nurses that I can recall was in regard to Hydaburg manse, where I proposed to allow a Government Nurse to live during the coming winter and to take care of the building for us. You had no right to criticise Mr. Waggoner in the way you did, or to reflect upon the business methods of any of us. The wire we sent you was necessary, as we stated, to save the Board's credit.

3.- BOAT A.L.LINDSLEY.

In regard to the quotation from my letter "I am certain that if Mr. Waggoner had had a free hand in the matter of the A. L. Lindsley we would have had a better and a faster boat at the expense of $2000.00 than it has now cost", I was perhaps mistaken, as Mr. Waggoner suggests, in saying that we would have had a better boat. As to the rest of the quotation, I stand by it. Mr. Waggoner's letter is so clear and full on this point that it is not necessary for me to repeat. The fact is that, as it appears, at Mr. Penfield's suggestion, a heavier and most costly engine was substituted for the one Mr. Waggoner recommended, and the added cost, together with the changes required to accomodate the larger engine, made the boat cost fully $2000.00 than at first contemplated. The lighter engine would have better fitted the wheel, the revolutions would have been as many or greater and the boat would have made fully as much time as it does now. Mr. Waggoner has shown you that the change was made without consulting him and the construction put out of his hands. Mr. Waggoner, himself, went behind in his own finances in consequences of his trip to Seattle and has not yet fully recovered from the loss.

The hull of the Lindsley was built at Kake. Mr. Beck did the work and Mr. Waggoner had no hand in it. I raised the money $1200.00 as a special. In regard to finishing the boat at Juneau, it was impossible last spring, as we stated in our letters, to get either the material or the workmen at Juneau at that time. The prices of material and labor have been steadily rising for several years, especially during the last eight months, and the cry is always "we cant get the workmen." The inadvisability of stoping work on such matters as boats and buildings is shown by the fact that when the boat was built -ie.-

the hull - we estimated the full completion of the boat at $1500.00 more, making the total cost $2700.00. Had I been allowed to go on and raise the money, which I could have done in two or three months at the most, the Lindsley would have been doing its work all these years, and the original cost would have been less than a third of what has now been expended.

4. - THE PROPOSED THIRD AND LARGER BOAT.

Again you commence your paragraph with a quotation from my letter, "There is one thing, however, that we will insist upon and that is that with the help of competent and experienced boatmen on this coast we, at this end, must have the management and expenditure of these funds." You answer this "If there was no other reason of the two foregoing instances of mismanagement, the Board would answer this remarkable demand by a prompt negative." Then you go on to speak of the funds contributed being trust funds to be "carefully conscientiously, and economically administered in the best interests of the work." Then you say "The responsibility thus placed upon the Board cannot be allocated to others who are not responsible to the Church. The remarkable demand which you now make is impossible of consideration." My Dear Mr. Banks, in the first place we propose to raise the funds for this boat, and for its maintenance, from sources entirely outside of the funds which would otherwise accrue to the Board. If I am allowed to go East I will attempt this, and my past experience gives me hopes of success. If this is accomplished we simply ask that our qualified navigators and boat builders be allowed to plan the boat and superintend its construction, without their plans being interfered with from the East or suddenly taken out of their hands and others substituted. For New York to manage such matters is like the attempt of Washington to manage all local Alaska affairs, and is bound to result in like confusion and added cost. We in Alaska are as loyal and intelligent as any of the servants of the Board, and you can rely upon us to do our part just as faithfully,

.....

In regard to your comparison of Alaska to Utah as to the relative expenditures of the Board in the two countries, I think your figures are misleading. The importance and success of our work depends principally, not upon the population in the field, but upon the opportunities for effective work and the results in Christian civilization. Judged by this criterion I think you will find that more, relatively, has been accomplished in Alaska than in Utah. Then you say "It is quite possible that not only the amount to be assigned to Alaska will not be increased, but should we close the current fiscal year with an added deficit to that of last year, the sum bugeted to Alaska for 1924-25 may be reduced. This latter paragraph will definitely answer the question which you submitted in your letter of the 5th instant, viz: 'But you certainly do not mean what your letter seems to imply, that the Board does not expect to make any progress during the coming year.' From the foregoing you will see that this is exactly what I feared."

That is certainly a heart-breaking statement. I cannot believe that it is true. In every work like that in which you and I are engaged the rule is, Go on or die. I do not believe that the work of evangelizing Alaska or any other part of our great Home Mission field is moribund. It is exactly to help our Board out of its Slough of Despond and to enable it to do a greater work than ever, that I wish to go East and take my part in your forward campaign .

.....

We have carefully figured upon the budget this year in the Presbytery of Alaska and find that we can do all the work that we have planned - not all that we would wish to do - and still keep within our budget. With the extra money that I raised from my excursions and with our salvages we can supplement the amounts given to our missionaries (white) and still pay our native missionaries and establish our work at Petersburg. Only our lay worker at the new church of Angoon cannot receive pay for full time. Mrs. Tilly Paul Tamaree has gone to Kake and Andrew Wanamaker to Klukwan and Sam Davis and John Brown are successfully at work in their mission. Petersburg will be for the most part self supporting from the first, and, if we give them help in building their church and manse next summer, I believe that church will proceed rapidly towards full self support.

I do not think I would survive the disgrace if any part of our work in Southeastern Alaska should be abandoned. There is no reason for it. We can provide the white ministers with a full salary of $1800.00 and keep five native workers on the field besides adding to our boat work, <u>if</u> the Board will allow me three or four months among the churches, and I shall promise not to decrease the contributions to the general work or ~~for~~ any other field. Of course in order to do this the salvage money must be placed in the hands of our Committee as it falls due, such as that accumulating now at Skagway. It is not likely, since Dr. Marquis turned Dr. Story down, that we shall be able to find a man for Skagway within the next five or six months at least. But that money is in the budget and we have use for it. It should come regularly to Dr. Bruce.

I have suggested in a recent letter to Dr. Marquis my plans for getting the third boat and for furthering the education of the native ministry, so it will not be necessary for me to discuss that in this letter. I do not share your pessimistic view of the future of Home Missions or of Alaska missions. We are farther ahead now in this Territory than we have ever been and have a better and more promising outlook if we have the faith and courage to go forward. In past times when we were in severe pinches I was able to help the Board materially and the secretaries always approved my efforts after the emergency was passed, even though at first they had disapproved. Our slogan here, which should be the slogan of the Board we think, is, Presbyterianism to the front in Alaska; no backward step; fresh challenges accepted!

Appreciating your kindly intentions and your helpfulness in our work, but holding firmly to my intention of pressing forward Alaska missions, I am

Most earnestly yours,

S. Hall Young.